NOT PLAYING GAMES
XBOX IS JUST WHAT THE DOCTOR ORDERED
{page 24}

HALL OF FAMER
WHO IS THE NEXT CANADIAN MUSIC LEGEND?
{page 12}

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Wednesday, March 23, 2011
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News worth sharing.

Watson fears job losses in budget

Opposition poised to reject blueprint **Plans for infrastructure talks good, but must result in funding, mayor says**
Watson knocks lack of funding for social housing, applauds dedication of gas tax to municipal infrastructure

A plan to find $4 billion in savings in the federal budget by 2014-2015 could mean job cuts in Ottawa, says Mayor Jim Watson.

"That has potential to be a significant job loss in the Ottawa economy if it is not handled sensitively," said Watson yesterday as he reacted to the release of the federal budget and plans for a "strategic and operating review."

"We're a public service community and Ottawa and our residents would feel it the most if there are significant cuts," he said. During the last significant round of job cuts in the public service in the 1990s city government worked with the feds to soften the blow with buyouts and other programs. Watson said at the time the job losses were counterbalanced by the rise of the technology sector. Now the economy isn't so robust, and many who hoped to retire are staying longer because of the toll the financial crisis took on their retirement plans, Watson said.

"We have to make sure our residents are not adversely affected," he said.

SEAN MCKIBBON

▶ Minister of Finance Jim Flaherty delivers the federal budget in the House of Commons on Parliament Hill in Ottawa yesterday.
More coverage, pages 6 & 11.

SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Libya

Canadian military aborts raid

Gadhafi denounces coalition attacks while his forces terrorize civilians {page 8}

In fate's hands

Julian Assange: A sex criminal or Nobel Prize winner? {page 10}

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Police chief honoured

Community builders help to make positive and lasting change happen, says mayor ◐ United Way CEO touts how community builders inspire others

SEAN MCKIBBON/METRO

▶ All of the 2010 United Way Community Builders Award recipients gather with Mayor Jim Watson for a photo at a gala award ceremony at Ottawa City Hall yesterday.

SEAN MCKIBBON
@METRONEWS.CA

Ottawa police Chief Vern White was humble after being named the 2010 Community builder of the year and having his name placed on the United Way Wall of Inspiration at city hall yesterday.

White was recognized for his work to establish Project S.T.E.P. (Support, Treatment, Education, Prevention) which will see two new youth treatment centres established and operating in Ottawa this year as well as the expansion of drug abuse prevention, education and counselling programs in 60 area schools.

"I want to thank the community for allowing me my role in trying to help," he said, adding that the program could never have come to fruition without the involvement of many people in the community from both ends of the political spectrum, various levels of government and from various community groups.

He said it was important to move the topic of drug abuse beyond crime and health and into the realm of it being a family problem.

"We made it about something different than just the police enforcing the law and putting people in jail," he said.

Role model

▶ Ottawa police chief Vern White

Past community builders of the year:

- Stephen Greenberg — 2009
- Evelyne Laishley, Lawrence Greenspon, Aliai Lual — 2008
- Brian Kilrea — 2007
- Larry and Debbie O'Brien — 2006
- Dave Smith — 2005
- Max Keeping — 2004
- Moe Attalah — 2003
- Ottawa Centre for Research and Innovation (OCRI) — 2002
- Jean Pigott, Grete Hale, Gay Cook — 2001
- The 11 outgoing mayors and regional chair from Ottawa-Carleton — 2000

Two teens arrested after report of man with gun

Police arrested two 16-year-olds, one male and one female, in Orleans yesterday, following reports of a man with a gun running in the 2000 block of St. Joseph Blvd. After a chase, police found the male suspect hiding in a shed. Three area schools went into what police termed "Safe School procedures" for the duration of the incident. No gun has been found or charges laid. The guns and gangs section is investigating. METRO

Girls hit by van, teen charged

A 17-year-old boy has been charged with dangerous driving after two 17-year-old girls were hit by a van in the driveway of Canterbury High School yesterday. One girl suffered a leg fracture while the other had injuries to her head, neck and legs, paramedics said. Both girls were taken to hospital in serious but stable condition. METRO

Blaze in multiplex investigated

Ottawa Fire Services were investigating a two alarm bedroom fire on the fifth floor of a multi unit complex at 60 Daly Ave last night. Firefighters were called to the complex at 5:19 p.m. and had the blaze under control by 5:33 pm. There were no injuries. METRO

1 news

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Greenpeace activists do what they do best at Ontario nuclear power hearings. Video at metronews.ca

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Lansdowne Park open to input

Meeting to take place tonight at the Glebe Collegiate Institute Conservancy co-founder is skeptical

After plenty of controversy about the design of a revitalized Lansdowne Park, people will now get a look at the activities that might go on there.

A City of Ottawa spokesperson said tonight's meeting on Lansdowne Park programming is an opportunity for residents to give their perspectives and feedback on the ongoing project.

Members of two groups challenging the city's handling of the project say the public must be consulted.

Friends of Lansdowne member Michael Tiger said he is very interested in what the city is planning.

"My question is how attractive will it be and how green will it be?" he said.

He added he is buried in recently obtained court documents that he hopes will clarify the city's financial projections about the project.

John Martin, co-founder of the Lansdowne Park Conservancy, said he will likely not attend the meeting today and is doubtful that it will be a true consultation for public input.

"From the get-go, the city hasn't been looking for any input," he said.

"Councillors have established that they want to see a stadium there, green space, a retail model and a governance model. Now put it out to competitive bidding. That's what we're demonstrating."

Tonight's public meeting takes place at the Glebe Collegiate Institute cafeteria at 7 p.m.

JOE LOFARO

CONTRIBUTED

An artist's concept of a revitalized Lansdowne Park provided by the City of Ottawa.

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It's the DOA budget?

Flaherty delivered goodies, but with an election looming it's unlikely they'll see the light of day

Finance Minister Jim Flaherty stuffed his budget yesterday with goodies.

They included programs such as a return of the home energy retrofit program, tax credits for caregivers, improved pensions for the poorest seniors and breaks for tots' art classes and tutoring.

But with the opposition vowing to trigger an election, the likelihood is that none of the measures will see the light of day.

What will survive is the bottom line — the federal government of whatever stripe will have more money to spend or to squirrel away for a rainy day.

"Leadership is about finding a balance between needs," Flaherty told the House of Commons.

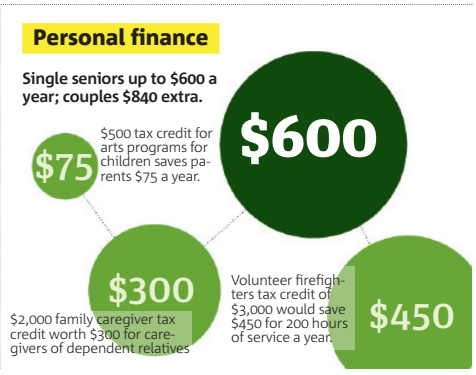
New program spending worth $2.3 billion is largely offset by cuts elsewhere as the original, recession-fighting budget of 2009 finally expires.

It's all packaged in a conservative document that forecasts the huge federal deficit receding slightly faster than predicted, down to $40.5 billion the year just ending, $29.6 billion in 2011-12 and virtually eliminated four years from now.

"There's nothing in this budget the opposition parties couldn't vote for," Chisholm Pothier, Flaherty's spokesperson, told a briefing.

How wrong he was.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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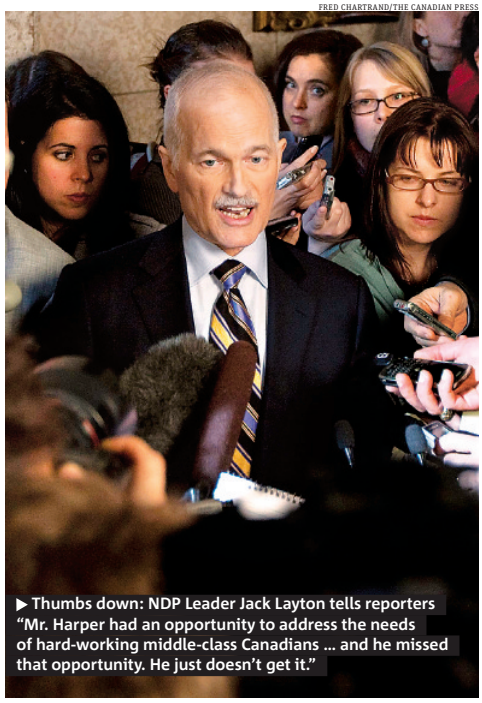

▶ Thumbs down: NDP Leader Jack Layton tells reporters "Mr. Harper had an opportunity to address the needs of hard-working middle-class Canadians ... and he missed that opportunity. He just doesn't get it."

What they said

Some quotes in the wake of the federal budget:

- "We find that the priorities of this government are not the priorities of ordinary Canadians," said Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff.
- "Nothing in this budget has persuaded me that Mr. Harper has changed his ways. And that's why the NDP will not support this budget in its current form," said NDP Leader Jack Layton.
- "No tax hikes, no substantial spending cuts. I like that very much," said Steve Goudy, a 59-year-old provincial government retiree living in Fredericton.
- "Stephen Harper clearly has the wrong priorities," said Ken Neumann, a top United Steelworkers exec.
- "Better by the day," said Jack Layton, when asked about his health problems.

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Canadian pilots abort Libya raid over civilian risk

- U.S. jet crashes, pilots eject, one hides in sheep pen
- Canada's MacKay says it's a challenging operation

It was just too risky.

Canadian military fighters abandoned an attack on a Libyan airfield and avoided civilian deaths yesterday on their first offensive operation against Moammar Gadhafi since arriving on the weekend.

Defence aide Maj.-Gen. Tom Lawson said the two Canadian pilots and command elements determined the risk of collateral damage was too high.

An American F-15 jet crashed in Libya on Monday in the rebel-held east, both crew ejecting safely.

Defence Minister Peter MacKay said yesterday: "This is a challenging operation ... not without risk."

One of the pilots parachuted into a rocky field and hid in a sheep pen on a family farm. The pilot left in a car, taking with him water and juice the family provided.

The second pilot was picked up by a helicopter.

Other developments:

• The Dutch government will deploy six F-16 fighter jets, a refuelling plane and a minesweeper in the Libya operation.

• Gadhafi appeared before a crowd in Tripoli, pledging victory.

• President Barack Obama says he has no doubt the U.S. will be able to transfer control of the Libya operation to an international coalition within days. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Battles rage

- Moammar Gadhafi's forces shelled rebels in the dunes outside Ajdabiya, a city of 140,000 that is the gateway to the east.
- Misrata, Libya's third-largest city and the last major redoubt for the rebels, was being bombarded by Gadhafi's forces, his tanks and snipers controlling the streets.
- Civilians in Misrata were surviving on dwindling supplies of food and water.

Republic of Congo. 19 killed

▶ The Antonov 22's tail stands as a stark monument to disaster.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Plane crash shocks neighbourhood

At least 19 people were killed and many more wounded when a cargo plane crashed in a densely populated neighbourhood of Pointe-Noire, the economic capital of the Republic of Congo, officials said. The Antonov 32 buried several houses in debris. The pilot was able to escape from the cockpit.

2 **Two past winners of the award include former president Gerald Ford and former UN secretary general Kofi Annan. Kennedy's family created the honour.**

His courage hailed

Wael Ghonim, a Google executive who launched a Facebook page that sparked protests in Egypt that lead to the ouster of President Hosni Mubarak is to receive the annual John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Middleton will use Rolls-Royce for wedding

Prince Charles' press office indicated the procession will have five horse-drawn carriages

Kate Middleton will be swept off to her April 29 wedding at Westminster Abbey in a distinctive 1997 Rolls-Royce Phantom VI, and will return to Buckingham Palace in a 1902 horse-drawn carriage.

The distinctive claret and black Rolls-Royce, which was damaged in December when Prince Charles and his wife, Camilla, were attacked by student protesters, will have its paintwork and windows repaired by the royal wedding day, officials said yesterday.

The car was damaged Dec. 9 when a mob protesting student fee hikes hit the car with sticks and bottles.

DOMINIC LIPINSKI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ The Glass Coach built in 1881 is traditionally used by Royal brides.

"There was paint damage and damage to the glass," said Alex Garty, transport manager at Buckingham Palace. "The repairs are ongoing. We're using that opportunity to give her a 60-minute makeover, so she will look her best for the wedding."

Royal brides have typically arrived for their weddings in special horse-drawn coaches, but Middleton has decided to travel to the church by car.

After the ceremony, she and Prince William will ride in an open-topped 1902 State Landau horse-drawn carriage for the procession back to Buckingham Palace, unless inclement weather leads them to use the famed Glass Coach, which has a fixed roof to keep rain at bay. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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A SIMPLE TWIST OF FATE FOR ASSANGE

Just sayin'

PAUL SULLIVAN

It's funny how life works.

For many of us, the idea of "destiny" is quaint, old-fashioned, from a time when the gods could not resist meddling in the lives of individuals.

Now, science has taught us that instead of being pre-destined by the Fates, stuff just happens. The universe is a cold, random place, and we're just lucky (or unlucky, depending on your point of view) bits of organized carbon.

But if that's the case, what's with Julian Assange and Scandinavia?

Consider the facts. Assange is the founder of WikiLeaks and has upset the global apple cart by leaking scads of U.S. State Department memos setting off scandals in virtually every world capital.

The lineup of leaders who would cheerfully strangle Assange forms over there on the left, but for some strange reason, his next destination appears to be Sweden, where he faces murky sexual assault charges. "Murky" because there appears to be a strong possibility that the sex in question was consensual and Assange may be the victim of his own personality, as in he's a cad.

"Now, science has taught us that instead of being pre-destined by the Fates, stuff just happens."

Assange is, of course, Australian, which is nowhere near Sweden. And his beef is with the U.S. State Department, which usually has little or nothing to do with Sweden. Meanwhile, he's holed up in the U.K., trying not to be extradited to Sweden, mainly because he's afraid Sweden will hand him over to the U.S.

Complicated.

While he's in the U.K. awaiting the appeal of the Swedish extradition order, he has been nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize. If he wins that, to accept his prize, he will have to go to … Scandinavia! Oslo, Norway, to be precise, which is right next door to Sweden.

So, in a strange twist of what can only be called fate, Assange could either be incarcerated in Scandinavia as the lowest of the low, a sex criminal, or exalted in Scandinavia as the highest of the high, a Nobel Peace Prize winner, alongside Mother Teresa and Nelson Mandela.

Either this guy was a salmon in a previous life and is somehow pining for the fjords of his fingerling days, or his ridiculously fascinating life has prompted the gods out of retirement and they have arranged a good old-fashioned Norse saga to rival Beowulf.

After all, Assange is a little like Beowulf, but instead of Grendel, he has the U.S. government by the tail. Don't know about you, but I'd rather take my chances with Grendel.

Read more of Paul Sullivan's columns at metronews.ca/justsaying

Cartoon

MICHAEL DE ADDER

Playing the Trump card

Worth mentioning

You're ... hired?

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

There's the blowhard billionaire. The "good ole boy" from the Deep South. The ever-maligned former Alaska governor. Another onetime governor whose action-movie-esque promotional ad has spurred guffaws, not respect. And a onetime congressional guiding light whose adulterous past still haunts him.

The Republican race for the 2012 presidential nomination hasn't officially begun yet, but if all the wannabe commanders-in-chief considering taking on U.S. President Barack Obama do throw their hats in the ring, the battle for the White House could be the most entertaining in years.

A recent poll by the Wall Street Journal and NBC suggests Donald Trump — yes, Donald Trump — has a higher approval rating than two of his would-be rivals, Mitt Romney and Tim Pawlenty. Trump, the star of The Apprentice, is pondering a run.

If he does decide to run, Trump could face challengers that rival him in the fame department, including Sarah Palin, the former Alaska governor who recently told Israel to "stop apologizing" so much, and Newt Gingrich, the onetime speaker of the House of Representatives who hounded former president Bill Clinton about his affair with a White House intern while he himself was involved in an adulterous romance.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Are U.S. politics more entertaining than Canadian politics? Why?

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Metro Minute with Soup-Splash

Spoon up some excitement tonight as the Vanier Museopark presents the fifth annual Soup-Splash at the Richelieu Vanier Community Centre (33 des Peres Blancs Ave.). Ottawa restaurateurs will square off to determine who can whip up the best soup using maple sugar as an ingredient. It's all part of this week's Maple Sugar Festival, after all. Taste the entries from Bistro St-Jacques, Algonquin College, Gourmet Express, Piccolo Grande, Epicuria, Cité Collégiale, La Favorita, Coconut Lagoon and more. Start time is 5 p.m. Tickets are $25 at the door or $20 in advance. Call 613-580-2424 ext. 32001 or email info@museoparc.ca.

METRO

COURTESY OF BENOIT AUBRY

▶ Last year's Soup-Splash.

CONSUMER NON-CONFIDENCE

Retail sales fall flat

Canadian retail sales fell unexpectedly in January, thanks primarily to a drop in new car sales, prompting economists to suggest that the Bank of Canada will take its time raising interest rates.

Retail sales fell for the second month in a row to 0.3 per cent or $37.1 billion, Statistics Canada said yesterday — much lower than economists' expectations of a one per cent increase.

The auto industry had the greatest impact on overall numbers, with car sales dropping 1.7 per cent for the second consecutive month after seven months of gains. Gasoline sales also fell 1.4 per cent, the first decline since June.

Outside of the auto industry, sales were flat. Seven out of 11 sectors reported they sold less, but food, building-supply, sporting-goods and department stores reported gains.

Peter Buchanan, senior economist at CIBC World Markets, said the lower spending together with the weaker core inflation rate of 0.9 per cent released last week give the Bank of Canada time to put off interest-rate hikes.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market moment

PRICES AS OF 5 P.M. YESTERDAY

TSX	Dollar	Oil	Natural gas 1,000 cu ft	Gold contracts
– 13.7 (14,000)	– 0.02¢ (102.05¢ US)	+ $1.67 US ($104 US)	$4.20 US (+ 3.9¢ US)	$1,427.60 US (+ $1.20 US)

Big breaks for small business in budget

FRED CHARTRAND/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ A digital meter flashes on at Atomic Energy Canada Limited's plant in Chalk River, Ont. Yesterday's federal budget would give the Crown corporation $405 million in its 2011-12 fiscal year to help with restructuring.

Credits would offset employment insurance, cost of new equipment

Small business got a boost in yesterday's federal budget with a break on employment-insurance premiums and an extension of a program to buy new equipment. However, with the combined opposition saying they'll vote down the document, the proposal is moot.

The budget measures are in addition to the billions in corporate tax cuts already announced that Finance Minister Jim Flaherty has defended as a cornerstone of the economic recovery plan.

Small business would receive a credit worth up to $1,000 to offset increases in employment-insurance premiums. The one-time credit, which would affect about 525,000 small businesses, would offset the increase in premiums this year.

"We will keep taxes low, while taking action to close unfair tax loopholes."
JIM FLAHERTY, FINANCE MINISTER

Flaherty also extended to 2014 a program that allows companies to write off the cost of new equipment in two years, faster than normally allowed.

However, corporate Canada would pay more in some areas. Changes in the way partnerships work that allowed for the deferral of corporate tax, along with changes in the rules governing the way dividends are paid between corporations would have brought in hundreds of millions of dollars for the government.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

RIM wagers future on high-stakes PlayBook

Research In Motion's PlayBook computer tablet will face stiff competition for consumer loyalty and is expected to appeal more to business and "hardcore" BlackBerry users, analysts say.

The PlayBook will make its North American debut on April 19 in more than 20,000 stores, RIM said yesterday.

"We expect the PlayBook to be a hit with hardcore BlackBerry users who, we believe, remain a significant subset of the approximately 55 million BlackBerry subscriber base," said analyst Matthew Robison of Wunderlich securities in San Francisco, Calif.

A plus for the PlayBook is the ability to tether it to a BlackBerry smartphone to get email and other content, offering security that "cannot be matched by other tablets," Robison said.

"The degree that web performance will differentiate PlayBook outside the BlackBerry community remains to be seen," Robison said in a research note.

ISAAC BREKKEN/THE CANADIAN PRESS/AP PHOTO

The Waterloo, Ont., smartphone maker is expected to report solid quarterly results tomorrow, driven by strong sales internationally. But the company has been losing market share in North America, and the PlayBook is seen as key to its rejuvenation as an innovative tech company. It will have to compete against Apple's iPad and tablets that run on Google's Android operating system such as the Samsung Galaxy and the Motorola Xoom.

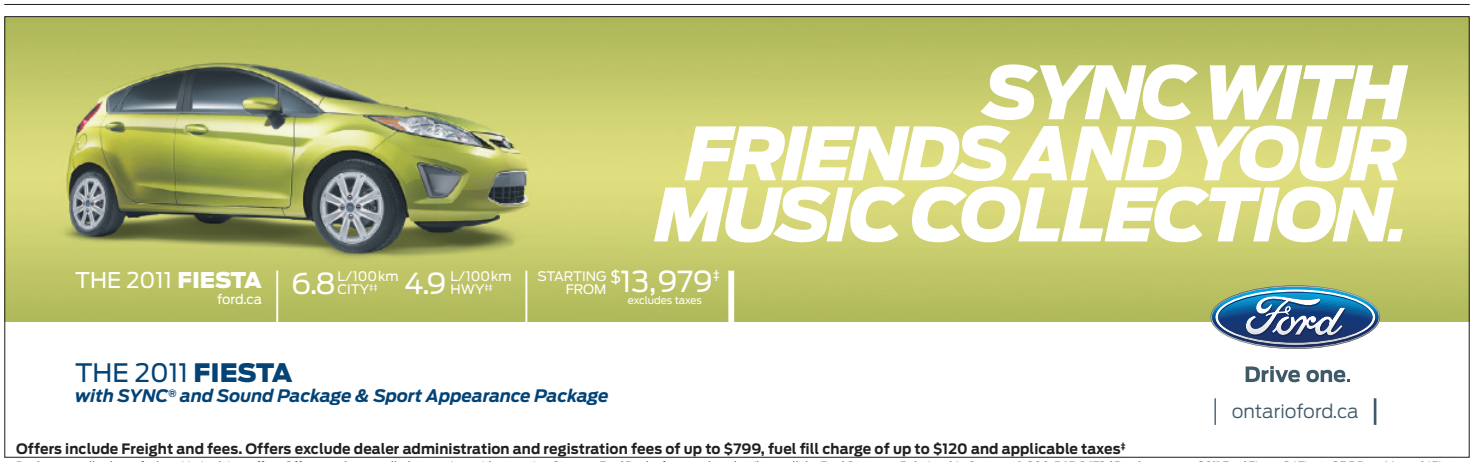
National Bank Financial analyst Kris Thompson said he expects the PlayBook to sell just under 500,000 units by the end of May, with 350,000 of the tablets going to business users and the rest to consumers. He predicted RIM will ship 3.6 million units in fiscal 2012.

RBC Capital Markets analyst Mike Abramsky estimated the PlayBook will add $3 billion in revenue for the company in its 2012 fiscal year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

By the book

- The BlackBerry PlayBook will be available in **three models**, with 16, 32 and 64 gigabytes of storage.
- The first generation will rely on **Wi-Fi short-range networks** to connect to the Internet, initially without contracts with wireless carriers.
- The units will range in price from **$499 to $699**.



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2 scene

Walk of Fame

Bryan Adams is now enshrined in concrete.

The Canadian singer, songwriter, guitarist, bassist and producer got his Hollywood Walk of Fame star Monday in front of the Musicians Institute.

Adams recalled visiting Hollywood Boulevard at 16 and marveling at the stars. He said he was humbled by seeing his own star.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ralph Macchio on top, Mike Catherwood finishes last as Dancing begins its 12th season

Can Canada produce another Shania Twain?

Even if a country star has made it big in Canada, it means nothing in highly competitive Nashville

Deric Ruttan still remembers exactly where he was the first time he heard Shania Twain on the radio in Nashville.

It was 1994, and a then-22-year-old Ruttan had just moved to the country-music hotbed in pursuit of a music career. He was driving his burgundy '87 Dodge Omni hatchback down historic Old Hickory Boulevard when a familiar voice strained through his car radio, singing Any Man of Mine.

"I was like: 'Oh, Shania, cool!'" said Ruttan in a telephone interview.

In the 17 ensuing years, Ruttan has remained in Nashville and forged a successful career as a country singer/songwriter who finally earned his first Juno nomination for country album of the year at this Sunday's awards gala in Toronto (CTV, 8 p.m. ET).

The show will also mark the 45-year-old Twain's induction into the Canadian Music Hall of Fame, an honour that seems like something of a no-brainer to her peers given her achievements: more than 75 million albums sold worldwide, 12 Junos, five Grammys, 16 top 10 hits and multi-platinum album sales in 32 countries.

But, of course, Twain hasn't released an album of new music since 2002, and while country music continues to flourish in Canada, no Canuck artist has managed to claim even a fraction of Twain's Stateside success.

While several of this year's countrified Juno nominees have carved out successful careers in Nashville, the question remains: What will it take for Canada to produce another country star who shines like Shania?

"I think, probably, a beautiful mid-section," cracked Johnny Reid, who's up for four Junos at this weekend's show. "I gotta tell you, I don't think anybody knows the secret." Still, while Reid's right that there might not be a recipe for Canucks looking to find international stardom, a few of his peers have zeroed in on some of the ingredients.

Dean Brody, a Smithers, B.C., product who is up for country album of the year for his sophomore effort, Trail in Life, had a hit on U.S. country radio with his first-ever single, Brothers. At the time, he lived in Nashville — and while he's since relocated to Nova Scotia, he says a Tennessee address is essential for Canuck country singers hopeful for U.S. attention.

"I think the biggest thing, the toughest things for Canadians ... is to make it in the biggest market, you have to be able to live there," he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

BRYAN BEDDER/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Shania Twain is being inducted into the Canadian Music Hall of Fame.

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Wimpy Kid returns to the big screen

SUBMITTED

▶ Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules opens in theatres this Friday.

Kinley strikes a chord with kids in popular book series and new movie

Rodrick Rules follows self-absorbed youngster dealing with preteen life

STEVE GOW
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

The creative mind behind the Diary of a Wimpy Kid book series and its two Hollywood movies (the latest of which, Rodrick Rules, opens this Friday) is pretty clear on why his work strikes chords with kids.

"It's the humour," said Jeff Kinney, Wimpy Kid author and executive producer of the films. "I'm not writing down to kids; my books aren't didactic. I'm trying to entertain kids and I think that's the way it should be."

With 47 million copies of the books in print in 37 languages (in Germany, it's titled I'm Surrounded By Idiots), Kinney has definitely tapped into the charms of readers with his lazy lead character Greg Heffley — a self-absorbed youngster that must deal with the tribulations of preteen life and, in Rodrick Rules specifically, his badgering older brother.

"Greg isn't a bad kid — he's just a flawed kid … and most of the humour in the books comes from his imperfections," said Kinney. "The most interesting aspect is that movies speak in the language of emotion and my books don't. But when you see these movies you really come to care about the characters and their relationships; I think it's sort of a different expression of telling the same sorts of stories."

Like the books, the latest cinematic version also explores a few autobiographical details from Kinney's own childhood — even if they've been updated for today's audiences.

"Greg and (his friend) Rowley try to become Internet sensations (by imitating pop singer Ke$ha) so that certainly didn't happen to me as a kid," said Kinney. "We thought we were going to be big famous Dungeons & Dragons monster creators. That was our big plan."

Starting out

Jeff Kinney on how he discovered Wimpy Kid.

- "I started writing a diary when I was in my 20s, actually," he said. "It was because I was playing a lot of video games each night and I wasn't working on my cartoons so I decided to shame myself … so that's how Diary of a Wimpy Kid came to be."

Handling success

Jeff Kinney on handling the huge success of Wimpy Kid.

- Kinney was recently named one of Time Magazine's 100 Most Influential People.
- "I have a very normal life in a small town in Massachusetts," he said. "But then every so often I'll do something like this and you just have to laugh — it doesn't feel like real life at all."

Hot Docs steps it up a notch

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Morgan Spurlock

Morgan Spurlock's product placement doc, POM Wonderful Presents: The Greatest Movie Ever Sold, is opening this year's Hot Docs Canadian International Documentary Festival.

Spurlock, who earned an Oscar nomination for his 2004 fast-food exposé Super Size Me, says the 90-minute feature was financed entirely by product placement, marketing and advertising.

He leads a documentary slate featuring several high-profile titles and festival award-winners.

They include films about late-night talk show host Conan O'Brien, hip hop pioneers A Tribe Called Quest, Broadway legend Carol Channing, and Cher offspring Chaz Bono.

Executive director Chris McDonald calls this year "something of a game-changer for Hot Docs," noting it features a third more films this year.

Hot Docs will screen more than 200 documentaries from 43 countries from April 28 to May 8 in Toronto.

"We are expanding the number of film presentations by one-third, we are screening in new neighbourhoods across the city and we will be providing more direct financial support to filmmakers," said McDonald.

"The doc-making marketplace has changed dramatically, and so has our role within it. We are not just screening great work, we are helping to finance and distribute films in a meaningful way."

Official selections were drawn from 2,146 submissions. The Canadian Spectrum includes Eco Pirate: The Story of Paul Watson, about the Greenpeace co-founder; Grinders, about the world of professional poker; The Guantanamo Trap, which follows four lives changed by the U.S. detention camp; and Inside Lara Roxx, about a Montrealer who becomes the first female porn star to contract HIV on the job.

"Every year we start with the goal of showing everything documentary can do," says director of programming Sean Farnel.

"Yet, more so than ever, what documentary is doing is re-inventing itself, expanding our notions of its capacity to communicate contemporary stories and ideas. So let's call 2011 the year that docs broke wide open."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Hot Doc picks

- **The Hollywood Complex,** about the spring migration of thousands of child actors who flock to Hollywood for TV's pilot season.
- **How to Die in Oregon,** which sees terminally ill patients seize control of their lives and deaths.
- **Being Elmo: A Puppeteer's Journey,** sneaking behind the scenes at Sesame Street to reveal the inspirational story of a shy puppeteer.
- **The Bully Project,** which spends a year on the front lines of the U.S. bullying epidemic.
- **You've Been Trumped,** a David-meets-Goliath tale of Donald Trump versus "the bonniest village" in Scotland.

REVIVING THE WIP GENRE

In Focus

RICHARD CROUSE
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

Recently, a poll found that more than one in five British cinema-goers preferred comedy to any other film style.

Action/adventure films placed second with romantic comedies rounding out the top three. That trio of genres eats up most of the space at movie theatres, but there are hundreds of other kinds of films.

This weekend Sucker Punch opens in theatres, a women-in-prison film directed by 300 helmer Zach Snyder, reviving a genre thought to have gone the way of nunsploitation and Pauly Shore movies.

Of all the sub-sub genres, the women-in-prison (WIP) movie has to be one of the least appreciated... at least in recent years.

There was a time when these stories of women in lock-up, at the mercy of cruel prison guards, proudly took up screens in drive-ins and second run houses.

With names like Caged Heat and Barbed Wire Dolls, these movies, along with kung fu and blaxploitation flicks, kept many a grindhouse in business.

WIP films have been around since the 1930s but didn't become popular until the 1950s when cautionary tales like Agnes Moorehead's Caged and Ida Lupino's Women's Prison mixed and matched hardened criminals with sadistic guards.

It wasn't until Spanish exploitation filmmaker Jess Franco hit upon the misogynistic recipe of mixing babes, bars and bondage, however, that the subgenre was born.

His first WIP movie, 99 Women, sparked a revolution in sexploitation films.

One of the early stars to emerge from the WIP heyday was Pam Grier. Starring in The Big Bird Cage and The Big Doll House — "Their bodies were caged, but not their desires. They would do anything for a man. Or to him." — Grier became, as Quentin Tarantino called her, "the first female action star."

No WIP exploitation film ever won an Academy Award, but at least one of their filmmakers did. Oscar winner Jonathan Demme is known as the man behind Silence of the Lambs and Philadelphia, but buried deep down on his resume is his big screen debut, Caged Heat.

"Jonathan took that assignment," remembers producer Roger Corman, "and said, 'This is gonna be the best one ever made.' Jonathan took the genre, worked with it, and made something exceptionally good."

Fighting the fight

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Director Zack Snyder

Zack Snyder, director of Watchmen and the new Sucker Punch, takes on the studio system with the first film based on his own original idea

NED EHRBAR
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

With Sucker Punch, visually inventive director Zack Snyder (300, Watchmen) presents his first film based on his own original idea — and original is putting it lightly.

The film follows a group of girls trapped in an insane asylum who use their imaginations to escape their dark reality, transporting themselves to fiery, bullet-ridden battlefields where they dispatch enemies with stunt-filled fury.

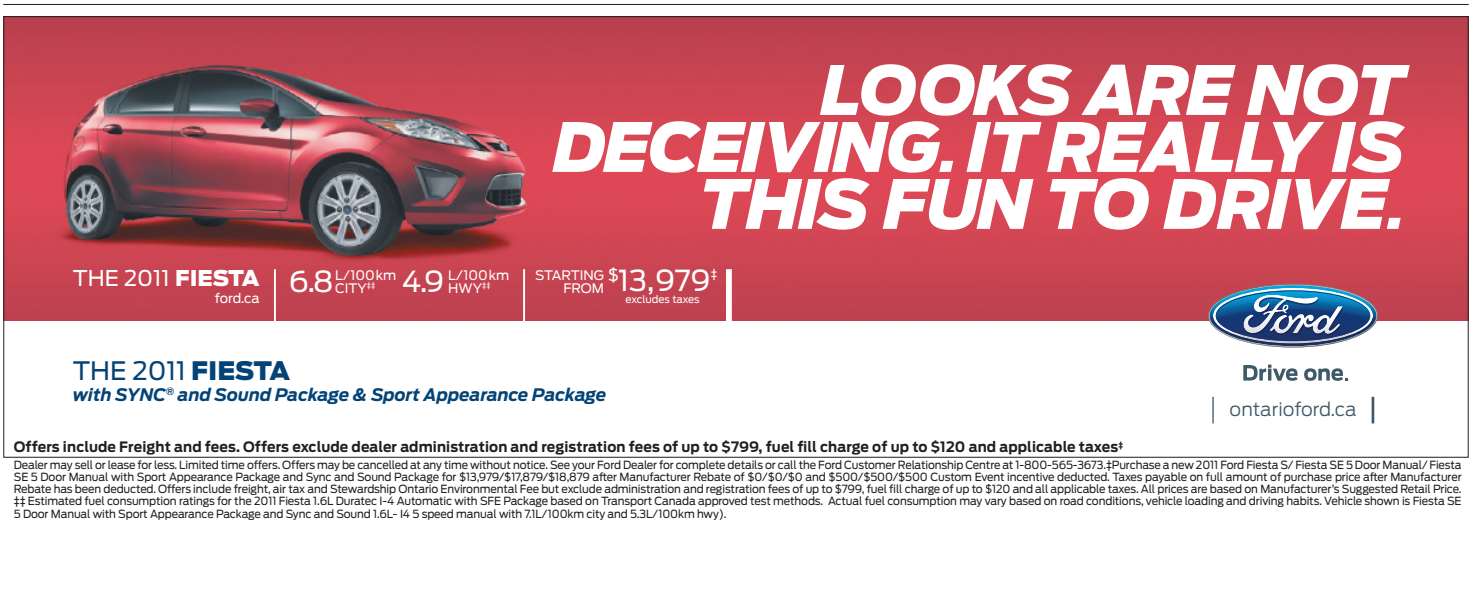
But Snyder admits it wasn't easy to bring his vision to the screen. He spoke to Metro about his influences, not going 3-D and fights with the studio.

You make original movies. Do you ever get much interference from the studio?
Oh yeah. That's the danger. They have preconceived ideas about what a good movie is or what you should be doing, and I think that in the end you really just have to be true to yourself. I feel like this movie pushes the envelope in all of its facets. You know, it's a female cast, it's got a complicated structure that's difficult. It has a dark ending that's not necessarily what they would've hoped for. Trust me, they did not like the ending. You just have to fight the fight.

How does having your wife, Deborah Snyder, as your producing partner help?
Those exact fights are the fights that she has every day to make sure the movie stays the movie I want to make. She really fights that fight.

You made Sucker Punch while also completing Legends of the Guardians. How did the two differ?
I wish Rango had come out before Guardians because when you see Rango you realize that they didn't give a s— about the kids at all and they just made a cool movie. We had that potential, I think, with Guardians, but everyone just said, "No, no, no, you can't do that. You've got to make a children's film." And so I got into a big fight with the studio because I just wanted to make an adventure movie with owls in it. But they were like, "No, no. You've got to soften it so that parents don't freak out." But I had a great experience with it. It was a good film.

Was there talk about making Sucker Punch 3-D?
This Korean company that was going to do it for Sucker Punch did a conversion of a five-minute sequence of 300 that was amazing, and I was like, "Wow. If they can do that level, maybe we can do something cool." But to do it over the course of a whole movie is just not that easy. It's a bigger deal than the studios realize. And I think that the field is going to be leveled soon by cost versus return. Because nobody knows. Right now the studios are just spending millions and millions of dollars to make a 3-D movie.



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Lohan's mom: 'My children don't steal'

▶ Lindsay Lohan

Lindsay Lohan is due in court Friday to enter a plea in her latest court battle, this one over a $2,500 necklace she allegedly stole — and her mom, Dina Lohan, says Lindsay may plead no contest.

"Obviously she's not pleading guilty. My children don't steal things. But the system is so strange out in Los Angeles. We're considering a couple of options and just want to get this over with in the shortest amount of time," Dina tells the New York Daily News.

But Dina insists, no matter what the plea, her daughter is innocent. "She was clearly loaned the necklace," she says. "And it should already be down to a misdemeanor because the necklace wasn't worth anywhere near what they claimed."

METRO

Lohan's dad arrested

LEGAL. Lindsay Lohan's father, Michael Lohan, has been arrested after his girlfriend filed a report accusing him of domestic violence, according to TMZ. The report also states the girlfriend had marks on her arm from an alleged altercation. Lohan was picked up by representatives from the L.A. Sheriff's office and taken into custody. His rep had yet to comment.

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TROY FLEECE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ A display inside the Saskatchewan Sports Hall of Fame and Museum in Regina, Sask. Regina will host the 2011 world men's curling championship next month and will welcome the world's top male curlers, as well as their fans, who will visit the city during the event, which takes place April 2 to 10.

Hurry hard to curling worlds in Regina

Organizers expect a loud crowd at the men's world curling championship in Saskatchewan Go support Canada's team skipped by Jeff Stoughton

Saskatchewan is about to be swept away by curling and is ready to welcome those who want to ride the broom.

Regina will host the 2011 world men's curling championship next month and is expecting thousands of fans along with the world's top male curlers, their families, officials, coaches and media. Derek Boe, chairman of the local organizing committee, says curling fans traditionally have been a quiet crowd but that's changing.

"Kind of what we noticed happening, mostly at Olympics this year out in Vancouver, was that things got rocking and rolling pretty good and the curlers loved it," said Boe, president of Curl Regina. "It is becoming a bit more of a raucous crowd and more enthusiastic and more lively and spirited."

Boe also notes that curling is Saskatchewan's official sport. There's no better place for visitors to brush up on curling lore than the Saskatchewan Sports of Hall of Fame and Museum in Regina.

"You've got lots of big names from Saskatchewan curling and they're all represented with their team," says Sheila Kelly, the hall's executive director.

Among those honoured in the hall is Regina's Ernie Richardson — the only male curler in history to skip a team to four world titles.

There are medals and memorabilia from Sandra Schmirler. "Schmirler the Curler," as she was known, skipped her team to three Canadian titles, three world titles and a gold medal at the 1998 Winter Olympics. She died of cancer in 2000.

And then there's the Grand Transoceanic Match — a funspiel for spectators that started in the '70s as a way for curling fans to get to know each other on the ice.

"They're just amateurs that enjoy curling," said Boe. "They've just kind of established this tradition of going and attending the World Championships and said 'Jeez, wouldn't it be fun if while we were there we staged a little match.'"

THE CANADIAN PRESS

If you go ...

- **Worlds.** The 2011 Ford World Men's Curling Championship will be held at Evraz Place. Ticket and draw schedule information can be found at curling.ca/championships/worlds.
- **Hall of Fame.** The Saskatchewan Sports of Hall of Fame and Museum is located at 2205 Victoria Ave. Admission is free. More information can be found at sshfm.com
- **Funspiel.** The Grand Transoceanic Match will be held April 8 at the Caledonian Curling Club, known locally as the Callie.

3 life

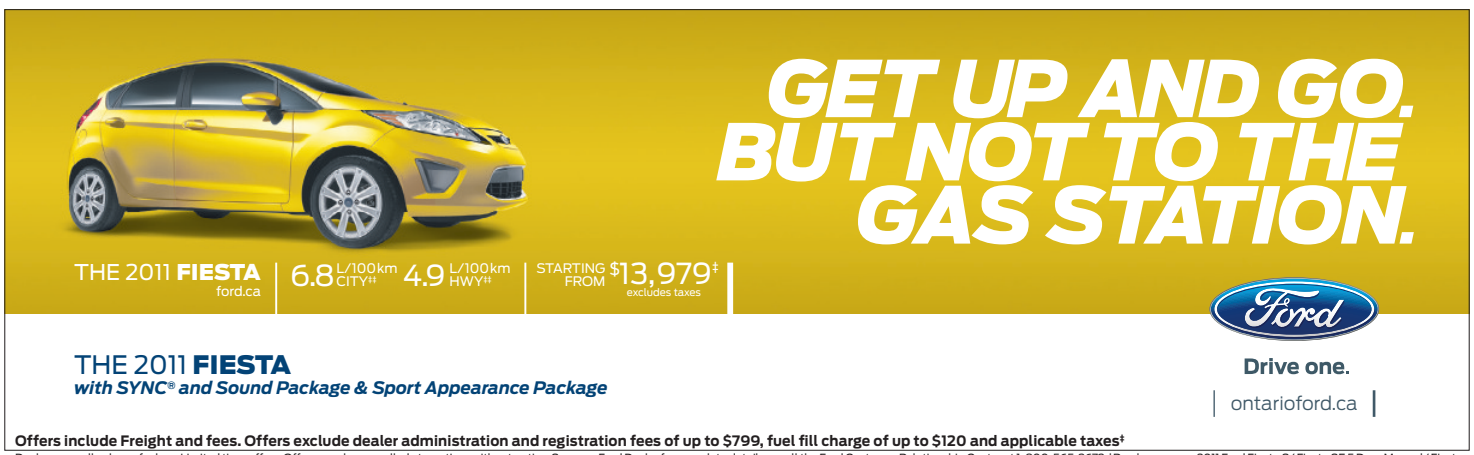
Travel in brief

Via Rail is adding two sites to its Garden Route for 2011: Ottawa's Central Experimental Farm and the Annapolis Royal Historic Gardens in Nova Scotia.

Now in its sixth year, the Garden Route promotes major horticultural attractions across the country. There are a total of 19 gardens on the route, from Butchart Gardens near Victoria, B.C., to Halifax Public Gardens in Nova Scotia.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tour of Shanghai's Jewish history tells story of WWII refugees, crowded ghetto



Learning to love Los Angeles

Sasha Perl Raver, an L.A. local and star of Food Network's Private Chefs of Beverly Hills, knows exactly where the cool kids dine and hang out

SASHA PERL-RAVER
TRAVEL@METRONEWS.CA
METRO WORLD NEWS IN LOS ANGELES

Los Angeles is in the middle of an amazing cultural renaissance. It's a bit like San Francisco and New York combined, with a mix of art, food and culture that isn't as shallow as its reputation.

One of the things I love most about living in Los Angeles is that you can go to the beach in the middle of February, which makes everyone outside the city super jealous.

When the sun rises, it scrubs the sky and you can see both the ocean and the snow-capped mountains, which are only about 30 minutes away by car.

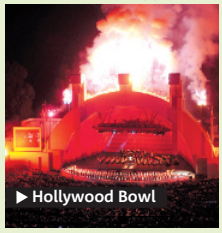
It really is an iconic and beautiful place.

For more information check discoverlosangeles.com

First time?

Go to Santa Monica. It's touristy but so Baywatch it's awesome. Rent bikes and ride along the beach. Annenburg Beach House is a free beach resort where you can reserve a spot on the day and only pay a small parking fee. Have lunch at the Café at the Getty Villa. The best outdoor music venue is the Hollywood Bowl, where people bring food and wine and enjoy being under the stars. And if you have time, go to a Dodger's baseball game.

SASHA PERL RAVER



▶ Hollywood Bowl

▶ Voyeur is a great place to go dancing in Los Angeles.

Explore with all of your senses in Sonoma County

California "scratch-and-sniff gardens" mix wines with nature Aroma and flavours matched in the sensory gardens An experience for your nose

Imagine a garden where melons, peaches, apples, lemons, pears and gardenias bloom. Then imagine holding all that in a glass.

That's the theory behind wine sensory gardens, featuring plants commonly smelled and tasted in wine.

Take a stroll through the neatly laid out cabernet-merlot corner of the red wine garden at the Kendall-Jackson Wine Center in Sonoma County and you encounter things you expect to find, like black cherry and black currant. And there are a few you might not expect, like oregano and bell pepper, which also can be picked up in some reds. It's a wine and noses experience.

"We call this our scratch-and-sniff garden," says Matthew Lowe, a chef at Kendall-Jackson Wine Estates who has been involved with the gardens for a decade.

In each garden there are four quadrants representing different wines, and in the middle of the garden is a section of things that pair well with wines, for example sweet onions and sweet peppers with sauvignon blanc. The idea is to correlate the scent of a flower or tang of a berry with what you experience in the tasting room.

Frey Vineyards was a pioneer as a purely organic winery, and the family planted sensory gardens "because we are a bunch of gardeners who also happen to make wine," says Frey. "Gardening is our relaxation and hobby. And (it brings) beneficial insects into our vineyards, and so it helps with our natural control of pests."

At Round Pond Estate in the Napa Valley, sensory gardens are curated by Jeff Dawson, who came up with the idea some years ago after encountering the "Aroma Wheel" developed by Ann Noble, a University of California, Davis, professor. It identifies aromas in wine.

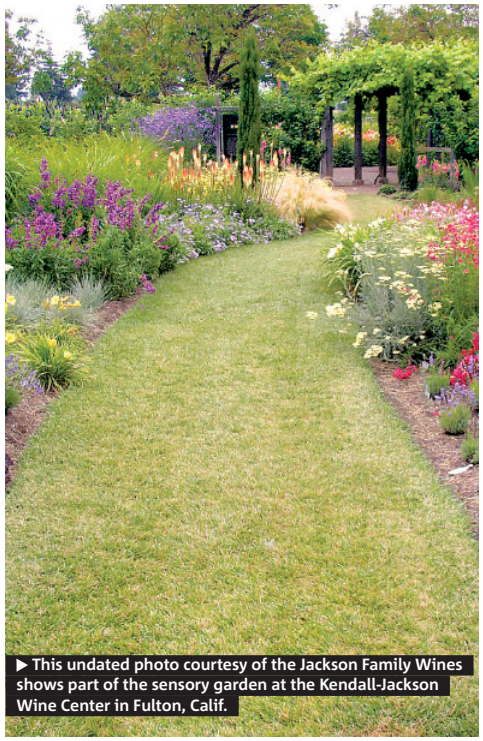
He helped get the gardens at Kendall-Jackson going, and six years ago moved to Round Pond, which has two gardens: sauvignon blanc and cabernet sauvignon — the two major varietals grown there.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Websites

- Kendall-Jackson Wine Center, kj.com
- Frey Vineyards, freywine.com
- Round Pond Estate, roundpond.com

HANDOUT



▶ This undated photo courtesy of the Jackson Family Wines shows part of the sensory garden at the Kendall-Jackson Wine Center in Fulton, Calif.

CONTRIBUTED

Been there before?

Chateau Marmont is great, although it's more sceny than it used to be. It's now known for Lindsay Lohan but back in the day, this was where Greta Garbo lived and Jim Belushi died. Sit in the garden and order sticky toffee pudding and a pot of mint tea. It's got this incredible old-Hollywood glamour feel and you always see someone famous here, hence the strict no camera rule.

It's a running joke in L.A. but everyone goes to the "night club of exercise" the Runyon Canyon. It's a three-mile hike into one of the grand canyons and people treat it like the running runway. I would also go to Griffith Park, L.A.'s answer to Central Park, just way cheesier. They have free yoga classes three times a day and an amazing observatory where you can look through the telescope and see incredible views of L.A.

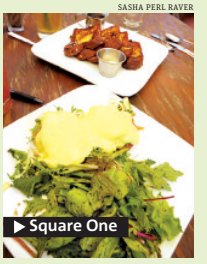
NIKOLAS KOENIG

▶ Chateau Marmont

Eat

Best fish taco in Ensenada is a tiny little fish taco stand — and you can only get fish ($1.50) and shrimp ($2) filling but it's like going to Mexico and back. Track down L.A.'s mobile food trucks via Twitter. The first to tweet its whereabouts was Kogi, that serves Korean barbecue tacos. Brunch is something that is taken very seriously in L.A. You can only have brunch or lunch at Square One, as it closes at three.

SASHA PERL RAVER



▶ Square One

Stay in

You'll be close to Hollywood Boulevard and Walk of Fame if you stay at The Hollywood Renaissance. They also put movie candy on your pillow at night. ($239, renaissancehollywood.com).

Go out

Las Perlas does incredible margaritas. They are almost like a meal and you can get very tipsy on just one. The bar staff here is super cute.

I love Voyeur for dancing. Some of the dancers are topless; others dangle from nets and some dance in glass boxes. It's not a strip club. The whole act is based on the 1930s.

The masks and top hats feel very Madonna circa her Express Yourself days.

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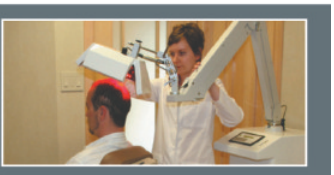

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Wine and more in California

Healdburg offers plenty of options in between tastings at some of California's best wineries

The chic wine country town of Healdsburg has a little secret. Fine wine is just the beginning of the attractions on tap here.

Poke around antique shops, eat at a Michelin-starred restaurant, float down a lazy river — and those are just some of your options.

Not that long ago, Healdsburg was a sleepy spot known as "the buckle on the prune belt."

The prunes are long gone, replaced by vineyards. And these days, if you're doing any sleeping here, it may very well be on the Coyuchi organic sheets of the h2hotel, one of several new or newly refurbished boutique hotels that have sprung up in recent years.

"It's really come a long way," says iconic rock artist Stanley Mouse, whose work is featured in the Rockin Roses gallery just off the tree-lined plaza that is the heart of Healdsburg. "It used to be a really quiet town. Now it's the place to go."

About 115 kilometres north of San Francisco, Healdsburg is conveniently located just off U.S. Highway 101.

Spend the morning shopping the boutiques and antique stores that line the plaza or browse the thousands of titles at Copperfield's Books on the south side of the plaza.

Maybe you want to put a little polish on your own spatula? Relish Culinary Adventures offers cooking classes that range from bread-baking sessions to visiting a farmer's market with a chef and returning to the up-to-date kitchen to cook up the meal. The ingredients and the talent are local to give visitors a sense of Sonoma County. Prices range from US$39 for summer lunch classes to US$125 for off-site classes at local farms and wineries.

If you're feeling more nautically inclined, take a kayak out on the Russian River: inflatables are available that are stable enough to take a dog along. For a different take on relaxation, try a spa treatment: The Spa at the Healdsburg Hotel offers day packages.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

If you go ...

- **Rockin Roses.** 243B Healdsburg Ave., Healdsburg, rockinrosesart.com or 707-433-6400. Open Thursday-Sunday, 12:30 p.m.-7 p.m.
- **River's Edge Kayak & Canoe Trips.** 13840 Healdsburg Ave., riversedgekayakandcanoe.com or 707-433-7247.
- **Soar Inflatables.** 20 Healdsburg Ave., soar1.com/rradventures/welcome.htm or 707-433-5599. Rates start at US$40 for a half-day kayak rental.
- **Relish Culinary Adventures.** 14 Matheson St., relishculinary.com or 877-759-1004.

ERIC RISBURG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Enjoy a glass of sparkling wine at the Boisset Taste of Terroir wine tasting room in Healdsburg, Calif. Fine wine is just the beginning of the attractions you'll find here.

Canadian film fest honours the Earth

Six museums across the country will be screening a group of acclaimed environmental documentaries — both Canadian and international — in honour of Earth Month, the Planet in Focus Film Festival said Wednesday.

Among the films are Queen of the Sun, a U.S.-made homage to bees and beekeepers; The 4th Revolution: Energy Autonomy, a German doc about the fossil- and nuclear-powered grid; and Water on the Table, winner of the best Canadian feature at the 2010 Toronto festival.

Museums participating in the tour are: Yukon Beringia Interpretive Centre in Whitehorse; Royal BC Museum in Victoria; Canadian Museum of Nature in Ottawa; New Brunswick Museum in Saint John; Nova Scotia Museum in Halifax; and The Rooms in St. John's, N.L.

Screenings begin later this month and continue into May. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Romantic Grenada has plenty to offer

JOURNEY WOMAN

EVELYN HANNON
JOURNEYWOMAN.COM

I recently visited the Caribbean Island of Grenada to test its female-friendliness. It's such a lovely corner of the world and under the right circumstances it is alarmingly romantic.

I travelled there with a group of travel writers and decided to look at this little piece of paradise from two different angles — wedding and honeymoon destination, and a getaway for a single female looking for some rest, relaxation and fun in the sun.

I divided my time between the Spice Island Beach Resort, an elegant boutique hideaway and then went on to La Source, a first-class, all inclusive holiday experience. Each stay was three days.

The first at Spice Island was so romantic I contemplated marrying one of the other travel writers whom I had just met that morning.

The second spot, La Source, was so full of endless activity and new people to meet I gave my original wedding plan up as a bad idea.

TO GET YOUR FREE SUBSCRIPTION TO JOURNEYWOMAN'S TRIP TIPS NEWSLETTER, GO TO JOURNEYWOMAN.COM

Book highlights the best of the Maritimes

Seafood lovers alert: a new travel guide to the Maritimes highlights lobster dishes in Halifax and the fishing community of Hall's Harbour, N.S.

Bish World Cuisine, a "world-class" restaurant on the Halifax waterfront, serves lobster over pasta, as well as Japanese-style scallops and other dishes that blend Asian and European elements, says Frommer's Nova Scotia, New Brunswick & Prince Edward Island Day by Day.

At the Hall's Harbour Lobster Pound on the Bay of Fundy north of Kentville, diners pick out their preferred crustaceans "fresh off the boat." The lobsters are then steamed in a cook shack and served by the docks.

Other culinary experiences to seek out, the guide says, include dining al fresco on Victoria Row in Charlottetown. The stretch of Richmond Street is blocked off to cars in summer.

Also recommended are tours and tastings at Cape Breton Island's Glenora Distillery, said to be the only single-malt whisky producer on the continent.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Pair of cruises hit N.B.

Two more cruise ship lines will be calling on the New Brunswick port city of Saint John this year. The stops this fall will be the first visits to the port by MSC Cruises and Oceania Cruises.

The announcement was made as representatives of the province, the Saint John Port Authority and industry are in Florida to attend Cruise Shipping Miami, the world's largest annual cruise trade show.

More than 70 ships are expected to dock in Saint John this year, bringing more than 200,000 passengers and close to 70,000 crew members.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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*Valid when staying at a Disney Value Resort Hotel, one child 3 to 9 years for each paying adult. Maximum four guests per room. †Kids pay taxes only when staying at any *Walt Disney World* Resort Hotel. Disney Offer: Valid for bookings made by March 27, 2011 for stays most nights April 28 to June 14 or from August 14 to October 1, 2011. The number of rooms allocated for this offer is limited. Tickets are for one Theme Park per day and must be used within 14 days of 1st use. No group rates or other discounts apply. Excludes alcoholic beverages and gratuities. Children 3-9 must choose from the children's menu. As to Disney artwork, logos and properties: ©Disney. **Flights are from Montreal** via Air Transat or Canjet. Prices shown are per person, based on double occupancy, and are valid for new individual bookings made on March 23, 2011. Taxes and travel related fees are additional as noted above. For full terms and conditions refer to the Transat holidays 2010 - 2011 Florida brochure. Transat Holidays is a division of Transat Tours Canada Inc., a member of Transat A.T. Inc., and is registered as a travel wholesaler in Ontario (Reg no. 50009486) with offices at 191 The West Mall, Suite 800, Etobicoke, ON M9C 5K8.

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B.C.'s best kept secret

Harrison Hot Springs offers amazing natural beauty Enjoy the healing waters or some fishing

THE TRAVELLIN' CANADIAN

DARREN PARKMAN
TRAVEL@METRONEWS.CA

The phrase "best kept secret" may be a bit overused these days, but Harrison Hot Springs really is a hidden gem. Just a 90-minute drive east of Vancouver, you'll find some of the most spectacular mountain scenery serving as a backdrop for the sandy beaches of picturesque Harrison Lake.

Despite all this natural beauty, the real draw of this quaint little village, is the world famous healing waters of the mystical hot springs themselves. Visitors flock here from all over the world to take advantage of the therapeutic waters that are said to restore good health, and promote energy and vitality.

After spending several hours submerged in the private pools at the swanky Harrison Hot Springs resort, I actually did feel a tad more rejuvenated, if also a bit shrivelled up. The high mineral content of the water seemed to energize me for my next adventure, and it turns out I needed that energy.

A leisurely fishing trip on Harrison Lake turned in a massive sturgeon. I'm talking 200 pounds massive. An hour and 15 minutes later, after using every ounce of my somewhat modest strength, I somehow managed to finally land this pre-historic giant. Myself, and my trusty fishing guide barely managed to lift the six-foot long monster out of the water before quickly letting him go.

Sturgeons are protected under a catch-and-release program, so there's a pretty good chance of catching one. As we headed back to the resort as the sun was setting, bald eagles circled overhead as a mother black bear did some fishing of her own on a nearby sandbar. Hard to believe all this is here to behold, and just a stone's throw from Vancouver. Well worth a weekend getaway for city folks.

DARREN PARKMAN

▶ Harrison Hot Springs, B.C., is a uniquely relaxing travel destination that is only 90 minutes away from Vancouver.

Other sites

- **Visit the Copper Room restaurant.** Old school dining and dancing are the name of the game at this historic eatery inside the Harrison Hot Springs resort. If you ever wondered what supper clubs used to look like in the '40s and '50s, wonder no more.
- **Hike nearby Bridal Falls.** Take a spectacular hike to the sixth highest falls in Canada. The water drops 400 feet to the valley floor. There is ample camping nearby.

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Travel Apr 5 - Apr 19/dl + taxes & fees $125

Costa Rica $499
Travel Apr 12 - Apr 27/co + taxes & fees $437

Bangkok $809
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USA

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Scotland Air + 6 Nights 5-Star $1219
Malmaison + taxes & fees $630
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Goa & London Air + 9 Nights $1479
Montana Kensington, Pearls Oceanique Resort + taxes & fees $652
INCLUDES 2 nights London accom and 7 nights 4-star beachfront resort-style accom in Goa. Departs Apr 15/vat/ggv/9w.

Algarve Air + 14 Nights 4-Star $1579
Pestana Levante + taxes & fees $512
INCLUDES clifftop resort-style in Armacao de Pera. BONUS buffet breakfasts included. Departs May 3/ggv/co.

Australia Air + 8 Nights $1679
Sydney Travelodge, Ibis + taxes & fees $454
INCLUDES 4 nights Kings Cross accom in Sydney and 4 nights central Melbourne accom. Departs Apr 11/ggv/qf.

Amalfi Coast Air + 7 Nights 4-Star + Car $1739
Crowne Plaza Stabiae Hotel + taxes & fees $455
INCLUDES air into Naples, Sorrento accom at a waterfront hotel with private beach and 8-day car rental. BONUS daily breakfast included. Departs May 11/ggv/co.

Argentina Air + 8 Nights 4-Star $2099
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INCLUDES 6 nights Buenos Aires accom and 2 nights Iguazu Falls accom. Departs Apr 18/ggv/dl/ar.

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Holland Group Special 7-Day River Boat Charter USD $583◊
Le Boat River Cruise taxes & fees included
INCLUDES self-drive boat charter in the rivers and canals of Holland with bedding, bathroom, kitchenette and sundeck. Price based on group of 4. Damage waiver and one way fee are included in price. Fuel costs not included. Travel May 14/leb.

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Do you know the muffin woman?

Metro's food columnist, Emily Richards, shares two very different muffin recipes Serve one at breakfast and the other as a dinner side

DINNER EXPRESS

EMILY RICHARDS
FOOD@METRONEWS.CA

These scrumptious Double Almond and Chocolate Muffins are packed with essential nutrients to help jump-start your children's day. Whip up a batch for breakfast or to tuck into lunch bags.

With a hint of banana flavour, they're are also perfect with an afternoon cup of tea.

Up the almond ante by spreading almond butter on half of a freshly baked muffin.

THE CANADIAN PRESS HO/ CALIFORNIA ALMONDS

▶ You can omit lemon juice and milk and substitute with 1/4 cup (50 mL) buttermilk.

Ingredients:

- 1/4 tsp (1 mL) lemon juice
- 1/4 cup (50 mL) low-fat or skim milk
- 1 1/4 cups (300 mL) whole-wheat pastry flour
- 1/2 cup (125 mL) almond flour (ground almonds)
- 1 1/2 tsp (7 mL) baking powder
- 1 tsp (5 mL) baking soda
- 1/2 tsp (2 mL) each salt and ground cinnamon
- 2/3 cup (150 mL) granulated sugar
- 2 egg whites
- 1/4 cup (50 mL) canola oil
- 1 egg
- 1 cup (250 mL) mashed banana (about 3 medium)
- 1/3 cup (75 mL) water
- 1/2 tsp (2 mL) vanilla extract
- 1/4 cup (50 mL) sliced almonds
- 1/2 cup (125 mL) chocolate chips (optional)

Preparation:

1. In large bowl, combine lemon juice and milk; set aside.
2. In another bowl, whisk together pastry and almond flour, baking powder and soda, salt and cinnamon; set aside.
3. Using electric mixer beat in sugar, egg whites, oil and whole egg to milk mixture; beat at high speed until well blended. Add banana, water and vanilla; beat at low speed until combined. With mixer on low speed, slowly add flour mixture to banana mixture until just combined.
4. Spray muffin tins with cooking spray and spoon batter into cups. Sprinkle almonds and chocolate chips, if using, over muffins. Bake in 350 F (180 C) oven for 20 minutes or until tester inserted comes out clean. Let muffins cool in pan for 10 minutes, then gently remove from pan and cool. THE CANADIAN PRESS/ ALMOND BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

EMILY RICHARDS IS A PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK AUTHOR AND TV CELEBRITY CHEF. FOR MORE ON EMILY, VISIT EMILYRICHARDSCOOK.CA

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EMILY RICHARDS

Broccoli and Cheddar Muffins

These savoury Roasted Broccoli and Cheddar Muffins are the perfect combination of broccoli and cheese.

Roasting the broccoli helps to keep its crisp texture while adding some golden colour.

The muffins are best enjoyed as a snack or as a new twist on the dinner table side dish.

Serve them warm out of the oven with a hint of butter spread.

Preparation:

1. **Roasted Broccoli**: In bowl, toss together broccoli florets with oil, salt and pepper. Spread onto small parchment paper lined baking sheet or pan. Roast in 400°F (200°C) oven for about 20 minutes or until golden and tender crisp. Let cool completely. Chop broccoli and set aside.
2. Meanwhile, whisk together flour, cornmeal, baking powder, baking soda, salt and chili powder.
3. In another bowl, whisk together milk, egg and butter. Pour over flour mixture and stir until just combined. Add cheese and roasted broccoli. Stir until distributed evenly.
4. Spoon batter among greased muffin tins and bake in 400°F (200°C) for about 15 minutes or until firm to the touch and light golden. Let cool in pan on cooling rack. Serve warm or room temperature.

EMILY RICHARDS

Ingredients:

- 1 cup (250 mL) all-purpose flour
- 1/2 cup (125 mL) cornmeal
- 1 tsp (5 mL) baking powder
- 1 tsp (5 mL) baking soda
- 1/2 tsp (2 mL) salt
- 1/4 tsp (1 mL) chili powder
- 1 cup (250 mL) milk
- 1 egg
- 2 tbsp (25 mL) butter, melted or extra virgin olive oil
- 1/2 cup (125 mL) shredded Old Cheddar cheese

Roasted Broccoli

- 1 1/2 cups (375 mL) small broccoli florets
- 2 tsp (10 mL) extra virgin olive oil
- Pinch each salt and pepper

THE CANADIAN PRESS H/O

▶ These florentine beef and cheese stuffed shells will satisfy even the pickiest eater.

Florentine shells stuffed with nutritious goodness

Although this recipe may seem a bit fussy, it makes two pans, so you can bake one for the kids right away and refrigerate the other to bake for your date-night dinner while they watch their favourite movie.

Serve theirs with a glass of milk and some veggies with dip, and yours with a side salad of baby greens dressed with balsamic vinaigrette.

Preparation:

1. Cook pasta shells according to package directions. Drain and rinse; set aside. (Don't worry if some shells tear. You won't need them all).
2. Meanwhile, in a large deep frying pan over medium heat, cook beef, onion, garlic and Italian seasoning for 10 minutes or until beef is thoroughly cooked and liquid has evaporated.
3. Remove from heat. Stir in ricotta, spinach, 250 ml (1 cup) of the mozzarella and pepper; combine well. Spoon 30 ml (2 tbsp) into each of about 32 shells.
4. Spread 325 ml (1 1/3 cups) pasta sauce into each of a 3-l (13-by-9-inch) baking dish and a 23-cm (9-inch) glass pie plate. Place 20 filled shells in baking dish and 10 to 12 filled shells in pie plate. Top shells in baking dish with remaining pasta sauce (none needed for pie plate). Sprinkle Parmesan and remaining mozzarella over shells in both pans. (Can be covered and refrigerated or frozen.) Cover loosely with foil and bake in a 180 C (350 F) oven for 30 minutes. Uncover and bake for 5 minutes. THE CANADIAN PRESS/ BEEFINFO.ORG

Ingredients:

- 1 box (340 g) jumbo pasta shells (approx 44 shells)
- 500 g (1 lb) lean or extra-lean ground beef sirloin
- 1 medium onion, finely chopped
- 2 to 3 large cloves garlic, minced
- 5 ml (1 tsp) dried Italian herb seasoning
- 1 pkg (454 g) light ricotta cheese
- 1 pkg (300 g) frozen chopped spinach, thawed, squeezed dry
- 375 ml (1 1/2 cups) part-skim shredded mozzarella cheese
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) pepper
- 1 l (4 cups) fat- and sodium-reduced pasta sauce
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) grated light Parmesan-style cheese

NOT WELL? MAKE YOUR NEEDS KNOWN

Workplace Law

DANIEL LUBLIN

IS AN EMPLOYMENT LAWYER WITH WHITTEN & LUBLIN LLP.
DAN@CANADAEMPLOYMENTLAWYER.COM

Employees dismissed for underperformance never go quietly. Often they complain that the cards were stacked against them or that their employer's decision was somehow unfair. But what about an employee who claims he was fired because of discrimination?

Sean Carter tried this card at a recent human rights hearing and learned that proving discrimination is more difficult than he thought.

Carter, a program coordinator at a rehab clinic in Hamilton, Ontario, was injured in a car accident that led to time off from work.

When he returned, Carter felt that he was treated differently at work, claiming that he was disciplined more often and his views were dismissed.

Carter then suffered from stress and depression, which he said resulted from workload and family deaths. His performance deteriorated, and when the clinic tried to manage it, Carter left.

He wrote in cryptically that he was going to see his doctor "for some results" and would be off work for a few weeks. Five days later, he was fired.

Carter complained to the Human Rights Tribunal in Ontario, perhaps Canada's most employee-friendly administrative body.

ISTOCK

▶ Failing to clarify your needs to an employer during an illness could lead to complex legal situations should you feel discriminated against after the fact.

However, instead of finding that Carter was fired for his disability, the Tribunal found that he did not even have one. This is because Carter failed to show that he even disclosed a medical condition or any medically-related needs to his employer.

Therefore, the Tribunal wrote, Carter's employer had no obligation to accommodate him and his termination was unrelated to his request for medical leave.

Not every claim for sick leave leads to a "disability" that must be accommodated.

Too many employers accept cryptic doctor's notes without scrutiny and too many employees fail to properly clarify their medical needs. Most of the time, both employers and employees are just ignorant of the law.

Taking time off

If you are sick at work or employ someone who is, consider these steps:

- Provide or request written medical authentication of an illness from a treating physician and ensure that the report is comprehensive.
- Meet and discuss accommodation. Employees don't need to disclose their condition, just the fact they have one and need assistance from their employer to remain productive.
- Request or provide modified work. Most jobs can be performed, despite an illness or disability, with reasonable adaptations.

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Doc, pass me the Xbox

Doctors at a Toronto hospital are banking on video game technology to save time in the operating room

A team at Sunnybrook Hospital has started using the Xbox Kinect, a hands-free gaming console equipped with a motion sensor, to virtually manipulate key medical images during surgery.

The doctors use hand gestures to zoom in and out of the images or freeze a particular shot without leaving the operating table.

Surgeons typically have to leave the sterile field around the patient to pull up images such as MRI or CT scans on a nearby computer.

They then have to go through a meticulous cleanup before returning to the area to make sure they don't bring in any bacteria that could harm the patient.

It can take up to 20 minutes to clean up each time a doctor consults an image, said Dr. Calvin Law, who helped integrate the technology into the operating room.

Those interruptions sometimes cause more than an hour's delay over the course of a surgery, said Law, a surgical oncologist with the hospital's gastrointestinal cancer team.

"It all adds up," he said. By eliminating those delays, the hospital could save enough time to operate on more patients, he said.

What's more, it would help surgeons stay focused and decrease the risk of contamination by keeping everyone within the sterile field, he said.

Surgeons can ask assistants outside the field to adjust images, but that's "always a little troublesome because of communication," Law said.

He compares the Kinect technology to a car's global positioning system, because it allows the user to get oriented without stopping.

With better control over the images, surgeons can be more precise, Law said. For a cancer surgeon, that could mean saving more healthy tissue when removing a tumour, he said.

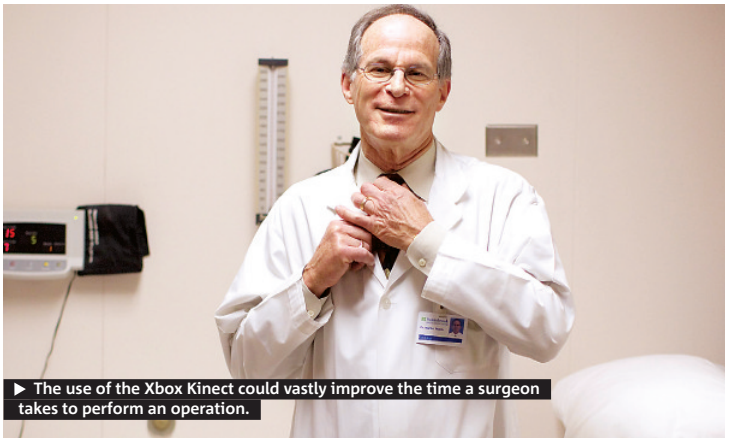
The idea to bring the Kinect into the operating room came from three engineers - Jamie Tremaine, Greg Brigley and Matt Strickland.

Strickland, who doubles as a general surgery resident at the University of Toronto, first spotted the challenges surgeons face in viewing images during surgery, according to Tremaine.

The Kinect seemed like a good solution, he said.

The console is a depth camera, meaning it sees in 3-D. It then creates a digital skeleton of the person captured on camera and tracks how the skeleton moves. Those motions are translated into commands.

CANADIAN PRESS



▶ The use of the Xbox Kinect could vastly improve the time a surgeon takes to perform an operation.

The engineers worked closely with surgeons at Sunnybrook to find command gestures that could be used in the operating room without compromising surgery procedures, Law said.

The system underwent extensive testing and has been used in surgery six times, Law said. There are plans to roll it out in other parts of the hospital.

So far, Sunnybrook is believed to be the only hospital using the Kinect, but Tremaine said he and his colleagues are hoping to change that.

They're also looking into ways to use the technology for physiotherapy.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

He's got an eye for gaming

Optometrists weigh-in on a manufacturer's warning against gaming under six ● Experts argue consoles could flag hard-to-diagnose eye issues

SHUJI KAJIYAMA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Vision specialists say the number one health issue associated with console use and computer gaming is obsesity, rather than eye problems.

U.S. eye specialists are welcoming the Nintendo 3DS game device, dismissing the manufacturer's warnings that its 3-D screen shouldn't be used by children six or younger because it may harm their immature vision.

On the contrary, the optometrists say, it's a good idea to get your kids to try the 3-D screen, especially if they're younger than 6. It won't do any harm, they say, and it could help catch vision disorders that have to be caught early to be fixed.

"The 3DS could be a godsend for identifying kids under 6 who need vision therapy," said Michael Duenas, associate director for health sciences and policy for the American Optometric Association.

The new handheld game device is already available in Japan and goes on sale in the U.S. on March 27 for $250. It has two screens like the DS machines it is designed to replace.

The top screen can show 3D images, without the need for special glasses, though only new games will be in 3-D. A pair of cameras on the 3DS can be used to take 3-D pictures.

If your kid doesn't see the 3-D effect on the 3DS, that's a sign that he or she may have a vision disorder such as amblyopia, or "lazy eye," or subtler problems that can cause problems with reading, Duenas said. Kids who experience dizziness or discomfort should also be checked, he said.

"The 3DS could be a godsend for identifying kids under six who need vision therapy."
MICHAEL DUENAS, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR FOR THE AMERICAN OPTOMETRIC ASSOCIATION

Today's 3-D viewing systems send different images to the right and left eyes, a technique that creates an illusion of depth. But a lot of the cues we use to perceive depth in our environment are missing. That confuses the eyes and accounts for the eyestrain and headaches many people experience watching 3-D movies. Because of that, optometrists say, these systems can help isolate problems that have to do with the way the eyes move, problems that aren't caught by eye charts.

These problems are much easier to fix if caught before age six, when the visual system in our brains is more or less done developing. Only 15 per cent of preschool children get a comprehensive eye exam that could catch these subtle problems, according to the American Optometric Association, the professional group for optometrists. More than half of all juvenile delinquents have undiagnosed and untreated vision problems, according to studies.

Going to see a 3-D movie or trying a 3D TV can also help screen for problems, but optometrists expect the 3DS to be in front of kids' eyes more.

"This has presented my profession, optometry, a wonderful opportunity," said Joe Ellis, the president of the optometrists' association.

However, optometrists aren't quite seeing eye to eye on this issue with another group of eye specialists: the ophthalmologists, who are medical doctors. (Optometrists are doctors of optometry but not medical doctors.)

David Hunter, a pediatric ophthalmologist affiliated with the Children's Hospital in Boston and the American Academy of Ophthalmology, said the idea that off-the-shelf 3-D games or movies could help screen for vision problems such as amblyopia is "a little perplexing."

Kids with amblyopia don't have much depth perception in real life, he said, so if they don't see depth in a 3-D screen, they might not say anything because that wouldn't be much different from what they see around them.

It's not impossible that it could help, but it's "all sort of exploration and speculation," said Hunter, who has started a company that's developing a device for childhood screening of vision disorders.

Nintendo's warning, issued in December, was vaguely worded. It said specialists believe "there is a possibility that 3D images which send different images to the left and right eye could affect the development of vision in small children."

The Japanese company didn't back the warning up with scientific evidence, so Duenas sees it as being motivated by liability concerns - much like coffee mugs carry warnings that beverages could be hot - rather than a true danger.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Digital generation includes old souls

Young people peeking into the past with vinyl

NICK WASS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Sarah McCarthy, right, and her boyfriend Jack Carroll rummage through records in Maryland.

In most ways, Sarah McCarthy is your average high schooler. She has a job, college plans, but also a peculiar passion for a 16-year-old: She's a vinyl junkie.

Sure, she has an iPod, but she also has a vinyl collection of 250 records and counting.

"Listening to old music remastered to a newer format is almost comical," Sarah said. "They weren't meant to be digitalized. Listening to Jimi Hendrix on my iPod doesn't capture his endlessly deep guitar solos quite like a 33 LP of 'Blues' does."

This girl's in love with vinyl, and she's not the only member of Generation Digital with an ear for analogue.

The uptick in interest over several years includes nostalgic "nerdy superfans" looking for a way around the more sanitized sound of digital, 14-year-old Nick Spates, a Los Angeles eighth grader who plays guitar and piano, but also savvy young people with Pink Floyd, Led Zeppelin and a host of obscure post-punk music on their minds.

While the recording industry dukes it out over downloads and mourns the CD, 2.5 million vinyl LPs were sold in 2009, up 33 per cent from the year before. Vinyl sales are a blip among total revenue from U.S. music sales and licensing, but that's a healthy increase in its own right.

"Young people are leading the way back to analogue through vinyl and turntables," said Matt Melvin, a 22-year-old college senior in Orlando, Fla.

"I think young people are demanding a product that is more tangible, the thrill of hunting through a store for that perfect record, the simple satisfaction of turning that record over." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Sens can't slow down Hurricanes

Senators go with McElhinney a day after re-signing Craig Anderson

4	3	
HURRICANES	SENATORS	

Chad LaRose scored two goals and Cam Ward made 36 saves to lead the Carolina Hurricanes past the Ottawa Senators 4-3 last night.

Tuomo Ruutu also scored, and Cory Stillman added a goal in the third period for Carolina, which remained three points behind eighth-place Buffalo in the Eastern Conference. Buffalo beat Montreal 2-0 last night.

LaRose scored late in the first and second periods to help the Hurricanes recover from a 2-0 first-period deficit.

The Hurricanes scored four times on their first 19 shots against Curtis McElhinney despite continued struggles on the power play. Carolina was scoreless on three man-advantages last night, dropping to four for its last 77 on the power play.

LaRose scored his 14th and 15th goals of the season for his first two-goal game since Nov. 17, also a home victory over Ottawa, which has lost seven consecutive meetings at the RBC Center.

Erik Karlsson, Colin Greening and Marek Svatos scored for Ottawa.

Greening gave the Senators the lead after Ward denied Jason Spezza on a breakaway. Svatos corralled his own shot off Ward and scored with 6:20 left in the first.

Ruutu and LaRose then scored 25 seconds apart to tie it. Ruutu redirected Jussi Jokinen's dribbler at 14:07. LaRose then took a pass from Joni Pitkanen and fired the puck past McElhinney, who made 20 saves.

Carolina improved to 23-1 when leading after two periods, while Ottawa fell to 1-23-4 when trailing after two.

The two-goal first period marked the first time the Senators had scored more than one goal in Raleigh since their 6-0 win on Dec. 12, 2007. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GERRY BROOME/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Jerome Samson tries to score on Senators goalie Curtis McElhinney last night.

Opinion

KEN CAMPBELL
THE HOCKEY NEWS

ANDERSON'S TASK IS TO BUCK SENS' HISTORY

Aside from cementing Bryan Murray's future as a key part of the Ottawa Senators braintrust going forward, the signing of Craig Anderson will result in another undeniable eventuality.

That is, of course, if you're a cynic. And the eventuality is that Anderson, in signing a four-year, $12.75-million extension with the Senators Monday, has basically just thrown his career down the sinkhole. That's because, historically speaking, Ottawa has been a place for goaltenders to watch their careers die, particularly after making a long-term commitment to the organization.

Will Anderson follow the well-beaten path to the goaltending graveyard that was forged by former saviours Patrick Lalime, Martin Gerber, Ray Emery and, most recently, Pascal Leclaire? Heck, the Senators even made Hall of Famer and arguably the greatest goaltender of all-time, Dominik Hasek, look as though he was playing dodgeball instead of goal.

One thing is certain, 11 games in a Senators uniform is a very, very small body of work on which to award such a lucrative and long contract. But you'd have to think the Senators didn't give Anderson such an enormous reward based solely on how he has played for them since being acquired for Brian Elliott — another member of the Senators goaltending alumni club.

On the other hand, though, the Senators haven't had this kind of goaltending since Emery's best days with the organization. With a 6-4-0 record and a .940 save percentage going into last night's game against the Carolina Hurricanes, Anderson has given the Senators some hope that their rebuild won't be one that is painfully long. For as long as Anderson has been around, he hasn't even celebrated his 30th birthday yet and he plays a position where many of his contemporaries have had some of their best success in their 30s.

And that, in its essence, is the key to Anderson signing. Despite the disastrous season, the Senators have the distinct feeling that they're closer to creeping back into the ranks of contenders than they are to an extended tenure among the NHL's bottom feeders.

Anderson, and the goaltending he provides the Senators over the next four seasons, will go a long way toward determining how long that process will take. That's because nothing can elevate or bring down an organization more dramatically than the quality of its goaltending.

The Senators know that better than anyone.

4 sports

Sports in brief

1 An MRI yesterday revealed no signs of structural damage to Tim Duncan's sprained left ankle. San Antonio will know later this week how long he might be out. He was hurt Monday in the Spurs' win over Golden State.

2 Cliff Lee tossed six innings as the Philadelphia Phillies beat the Toronto Blue Jays 5-4 in spring training yesterday. Toronto starter Ricky Romero allowed three first-inning runs and has given up 12 runs and 16 hits over 14 innings in four starts. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Scan code for more sports

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
dx-Philadelphia	71	44	19	4	4	228	190	96	21-10-2-2	23-9-2-2	4-4-1-1	W1
d-Washington	73	42	21	5	5	198	176	94	22-8-2-5	20-13-3-0	9-1-0-0	W1
d-Boston	71	39	22	5	5	213	175	88	16-12-3-2	23-10-2-3	4-4-2-0	L2
Pittsburgh	73	42	23	5	3	213	181	92	22-13-2-0	20-10-3-3	6-2-2-0	W1
Tampa Bay	72	39	22	5	6	214	217	89	22-9-1-4	17-13-4-2	2-4-2-2	L2
Montreal	73	40	26	4	3	200	185	87	22-9-3-3	18-17-1-0	7-3-0-0	W1
NY Rangers	73	39	30	2	2	215	179	82	17-17-1-2	22-13-1-0	6-4-0-0	W4
Buffalo	72	35	28	8	1	214	208	79	16-16-3-1	19-12-5-0	5-3-2-0	L1
Carolina	72	33	29	5	5	201	214	76	19-12-2-2	14-17-3-3	4-5-1-0	W1
Toronto	73	32	31	5	5	192	225	74	17-14-3-4	15-17-2-1	5-4-1-0	W1
New Jersey	72	34	34	3	1	154	182	72	17-15-2-1	17-19-0-1	7-3-0-0	W1
Atlanta	72	30	30	5	7	202	237	72	15-14-2-5	15-16-3-2	5-4-1-0	L1
Florida	72	29	33	5	5	182	198	68	15-15-5-4	14-18-0-1	3-4-2-1	L1
NY Islanders	73	28	33	7	5	203	232	68	16-15-1-4	12-18-6-1	5-1-3-1	W1
Ottawa	72	27	36	5	4	164	223	63	13-19-2-3	14-17-3-1	6-4-0-0	W2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
y-Vancouver	73	47	17	4	5	238	172	103	25-8-1-4	22-9-3-1	8-2-0-0	L1
Detroit	73	43	21	6	3	237	209	95	19-11-4-2	24-10-2-1	4-3-2-1	L2
San Jose	73	42	23	4	4	211	191	92	20-11-2-3	22-12-2-1	5-3-0-2	W3
Phoenix	74	39	24	7	4	213	207	89	17-12-4-2	22-12-3-2	6-3-1-0	L1
Los Angeles	73	41	26	4	2	199	177	88	21-12-3-0	20-14-1-2	6-2-2-0	W1
Chicago	72	39	25	3	5	234	203	86	22-14-0-0	17-11-4-4	6-2-1-1	W1
Nashville	73	38	25	6	4	190	172	86	19-8-4-3	19-18-1-1	6-2-1-1	W3
Anaheim	72	40	27	3	2	204	208	85	23-12-1-1	17-15-2-1	8-2-0-0	W3
Dallas	72	38	25	3	6	203	202	85	20-11-2-5	18-14-1-1	5-2-2-1	L1
Calgary	75	37	27	4	7	227	216	85	22-12-1-3	15-15-3-4	4-4-1-1	L2
Minnesota	73	35	30	3	5	185	204	78	17-14-2-3	18-16-1-2	2-6-2-0	L6
Columbus	72	33	29	4	6	195	218	76	16-16-1-3	17-13-3-3	2-5-1-2	L1
St. Louis	72	32	31	4	5	201	214	73	20-12-1-3	12-19-3-2	4-6-0-0	L2
Colorado	71	27	36	7	1	198	250	62	14-17-4-0	13-19-3-1	1-8-0-1	W1
Edmonton	72	23	39	2	8	175	237	56	12-20-1-4	11-19-2-3	3-5-1-1	L6

x — clinched playoff berth; y — clinched division title; d — division leaders; a team winning in overtime or shootout is credited with two points and a victory in the W column; the team losing in overtime or shootout receives one point which is registered in the OTL or SOL columns.

Last night's results
New Jersey at Boston
Florida at N.Y. Rangers
Washington at Philadelphia
Ottawa at Carolina
Buffalo at Montreal
N.Y. Islanders at Tampa Bay
Edmonton at Nashville
Toronto at Minnesota
Columbus at Colorado
St. Louis at Phoenix

Monday's results
Pittsburgh 5 Detroit 4 (OT)
Los Angeles 2 Calgary 1 (SO)

Tonight's games
All times Eastern
Vancouver at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Florida at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Anaheim at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Calgary at San Jose, 10 p.m.

Tonight's games
Montreal at Boston, 7 p.m.
Atlanta at N.Y. Islanders, 7 p.m.
Ottawa at N.Y. Rangers, 7 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Edmonton at St. Louis, 8 p.m.
Anaheim at Nashville, 8 p.m.
Toronto at Colorado, 9 p.m.
Columbus at Phoenix, 10 p.m.
San Jose at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.

MONDAY

KINGS 2, FLAMES 1 (SO)

First Period — No Scoring.
Penalties — Ponikarovsky LA (tripping) 1:21, Iginla Cal (hooking) 4:47, Hagman Cal (cross-checking), Greene LA (hooking), Richardson LA (unsportsmanlike conduct) 17:11.
Second Period — No Scoring.
Penalties — Ponikarovsky LA (hooking) 2:06, Sarich Cal (hooking) 4:46, Mitchell LA (high-sticking) 12:27, Iginla Cal (slashing) 16:41, Sarich Cal (interference) 19:22.
Third Period
1. Los Angeles, Stoll 19 (Richardson, Simmonds) 14:08
2. Calgary, Jokinen 16 (Staios, Sarich) 15:13
Penalty — Johnson LA (cross-checking) 7:37.
Overtime — No Scoring.
Penalty — Los Angeles bench (too many men; served by Smyth) 3:57.
Shootout
Los Angeles wins 2-1
Calgary (1) — Tanguay, goal; Bourque, miss; Glencross, miss.
Los Angeles (2) — Handzus, miss; Stoll, goal; Kopitar, goal.

Shots

Calgary	6	8	10	4	—28
Los Angeles	5	10	11	1	—27

Goal — Calgary: Kiprusoff (L,33-22-6); Los Angeles: Quick (W,31-18-3). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Calgary: 0-6; Los Angeles: 0-4.
Referees — Brian Pochmara, Dan O'Halloran.
Linesmen — Lonnie Cameron, Don Henderson.
Att. — 18,118 (18,118) at Los Angeles.

PENGUINS 5. RED WINGS 4 (SO)

First Period
1. Pittsburgh, Dupuis 12 (Conner, Staal) 15:14
2. Pittsburgh, Kunitz 22 (Dupuis, Letang) 19:17
Penalties — Ericsson Det (holding) 11:56, Staal Pgh (hooking) 15:42.
Second Period
3. Pittsburgh, Dupuis 13 (Staal, Lovejoy) 10:51 (sh)
4. Pittsburgh, Kennedy 17 (Kunitz, Adams) 13:16
5. Detroit, Zetterberg 21 (Cleary, Stuart) 17:41
Penalties — Niskanen Pgh (boarding) 9:24, Bertuzzi Det (interference) 18:31.
Third Period
6. Detroit, V.Filppula 16 (Stuart, Holmstrom) 1:57
7. Detroit, Cleary 24 (Kronwall, Lidstrom) 8:06 (pp)
8. Detroit, Modano 3 (V.Filppula, Lidstrom) 10:27 (pp)
Penalties — Letang Pgh (cross-checking) 7:00, Kovalev Pgh (holding) 9:08, Kronwall Det (interference) 16:12.
Overtime — No Scoring.
Penalties — None.
Shootout
Pittsburgh wins 1-0
Pittsburgh (1) — Kovalev, miss; Letang, miss; Neal, goal.
Detroit (0) — Bertuzzi, miss; Modano, miss; Cleary, miss.

Shots

Pittsburgh	8	8	5	4	—25
Detroit	11	12	14	4	—41

Goal (shots-saves) — Pittsburgh: B.Johnson (W,11-5-3); Detroit: Howard (15-11), MacDonald (L,4-4-2)(13:16 second)(10-10). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Pittsburgh: 0-3; Detroit: 2-4.
Referees — Chris Lee, Kevin Pollock. **Linesmen** — Scott Driscoll, Darren Gibbs.
Att. — 20,066 (20,066) at Detroit.

SCORING LEADERS

	G	A	PT
D.Sedin, Vcr	38	55	93
Stamkos, TB	43	43	86
H.Sedin, Vcr	18	68	86
St. Louis, TB	26	59	85
Perry, Ana	39	40	79
Ovechkin, Wash	29	48	77
Zetterberg, Det	21	52	73
Toews, Chi	30	42	72
Kopitar, LA	25	47	72
Iginla, Cal	33	38	71
Sharp, Chi	34	34	68
B.Richards, Dal	25	42	67
Selanne, Ana	22	45	67
Crosby, Pgh	32	34	66
C.Giroux, Pha	23	43	66
Nash, Clb	31	34	65
Kesler, Vcr	36	28	64
E.Staal, Car	29	35	64
P.Kane, Chi	24	39	63
Eriksson, Dal	23	40	63
J.Carter, Pha	33	29	62
Vanek, Buf	25	37	62
Ribeiro, Dal	16	46	62
J.Thornton, SJ	19	42	61
Getzlaf, Ana	18	43	61
Ryan, Ana	32	28	60
Tavares, NYI	26	34	60
Havlat, Minn	21	39	60
M.Richards, Pha	20	40	60
Briere, Pha	31	28	59
Marleau, SJ	29	30	59
Heatley, SJ	24	34	58
Tanguay, Cal	19	39	58
Visnovsky, Ana	14	44	58
Datsyuk, Det	22	35	57
J.Williams, LA	22	35	57
Pavelski, SJ	16	41	57
Lidstrom, Det	14	43	57
Yandle, Phx	11	46	57
Duchene, Col	23	33	56
Krecji, Bos	12	44	56
Clowe, SJ	23	32	55
Doan, Phx	18	37	55
Backstrom, Wash	17	38	55
Kessel, Tor	28	26	54
Backes, StL	26	28	54
M.Koivu, Minn	17	37	54
Lucic, Bos	29	24	53
Grabovski, Tor	27	26	53
Ladd, Atl	26	27	53
Plekanec, Mtl	21	32	53
MacArthur, Tor	20	33	53
P.Stastny, Col	20	33	53

Last night's games not included

SOCCER

MLS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pt
D.C. United	1	1	0	0	3	1	3
Kansas City	1	1	0	0	3	2	3
New York	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
Philadelphia	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
Chicago	1	0	0	1	1	1	1
New England	1	0	0	1	1	1	1
Toronto	1	0	1	0	2	4	0
Columbus	1	0	1	0	1	3	0
Houston	1	0	1	0	0	1	0

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pt
Los Angeles	1	1	0	1	2	1	4
Vancouver	1	1	0	0	4	2	3
Colorado	1	1	0	0	3	1	3
Real Salt Lake	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
Dallas	1	0	0	1	1	1	1
Chivas USA	1	0	1	0	2	3	0
Portland	1	0	1	0	1	3	0
San Jose	1	0	1	0	0	1	0
Seattle	2	0	2	0	0	2	0

Note: 3 points for victory, 1 point for tie.
Friday's game
All times Eastern
Houston at Seattle, 10 p.m.
Saturday's games
Portland at Toronto, 2 p.m.
New York at Columbus, 4 p.m.
Kansas City at Chicago, 4 p.m.
Vancouver at Philadelphia, 4 p.m.
D.C. United at New England, 4:30 p.m.
Los Angeles at Real Salt Lake, 9 p.m.
San Jose at Dallas, 9 p.m.
Colorado at Chivas USA, 10:30 p.m.

MLB

SPRING TRAINING

Yesterday's results
Philadelphia 5, Toronto 4
Baltimore 6, N.Y. Yankees 2
N.Y. Mets 7, Detroit 4
Oakland 10 Cincinnati 8
Seattle 9 Chicago White Sox 5
Washington 3, Houston 1
Florida 3, Minnesota 0
Milwaukee 7 San Diego 0
L.A. Dodgers 2 Chicago Cubs 1 (10 inn.)
Cleveland 7 Arizona 3
Tampa Bay vs. Boston
L.A. Angels vs. Kansas City
Today's games
All times Eastern
NYM vs. St. Louis at Jupiter, Fla., 1:05 p.m.
Phila. vs. T.B. at Port Charlotte, Fla., 1:05 p.m.
Houston vs. Pitt. at Bradenton, Fla., 1:05 p.m.
Florida vs. Atl. at Kissimmee, Fla., 1:05 p.m.
Oakland vs. Chi. Cubs at Mesa, Ariz., 4:05 p.m.
Arizona vs. Texas at Surprise, Ariz., 4:05 p.m.
Cincinnati vs. S.D. at Peoria, Ariz., 4:05 p.m.
K.C. vs. Cleveland at Goodyear, Ariz., 4:05 p.m.
LAD vs. CWS at Glendale, Ariz., 4:05 p.m.
San Fran. vs. LAA at Tempe, Ariz., 4:05 p.m.
Balt. vs. Minn. at Fort Myers, Fla., 7:05 p.m.
Toronto vs. NYY at Tampa, Fla., 7:05 p.m.
Seattle vs. Colo. at Scottsdale, Ariz., 9:40 p.m.

CURLING

WOMEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

At Esbjerg, Denmark

Country (skip)	W	L
Sweden (Norberg)	6	1
Switzerland (Ott)	5	2
Canada (Holland)	**4**	**3**
China (B.Wang)	4	3
Denmark (Nielsen)	4	3
Russia (Privivkova)	4	3
Germany (A.Schopp)	3	4
Norway (Githmark)	3	4
Scotland (Sloan)	3	4
U.S. (Lank)	3	4
Czech Rep. (Kubekova)	2	5
South Korea (Kim)	1	6

Yesterday's results
Ninth Draw
Canada 7 Czech Republic 4
China 8 Scotland 2
Germany 7 Norway 3
Sweden 8 Denmark 3
Draw 10
Denmark 8 Norway 3
Sweden 7 Germany 5
Switzerland 9 Russia 7
U.S. 8 South Korea 6
Draw 11
Canada 9 U.S. 6
Russia 8 Scotland 6
South Korea 11 Czech Republic 2
Switzerland 7 China 6 (extra end).
Today's games
Draw 12
Russia vs. Germany; Sweden vs. Switzerland; Denmark vs. South Korea; Norway vs. U.S.
Draw 13
South Korea vs. Scotland; China vs. U.S.; Russia vs. Czech Republic; Switzerland vs. **Canada.**
Draw 14
Sweden vs. **Canada**; Germany vs. Czech Rep.; China vs. Norway; Denmark vs. Scotland.

GOLF

PGA FEDEX CUP LEADERS

Through March 20

Points Money	YTD	
1. Mark Wilson	1,086	$2,268,825
2. Nick Watney	960	$2,278,000
3. Gary Woodland	945	$1,850,064
4. Rory Sabbatini	820	$1,573,194
5. Jhonattan Vegas	791	$1,479,510
6. Bubba Watson	763	$1,667,417
7. D.A. Points	737	$1,538,207
8. Luke Donald	718	$1,807,800
9. Jonathan Byrd	705	$1,404,148
87. Stephen Ames	**142**	**$254,243**

TENNIS

WTA SONY ERICSSON OPEN

At Key Biscayne, Fla.
Women's Singles — First Round
Melanie Oudin, U.S., def. Julia Goerges, Germany, 7-5, 6-3.
Iveta Benesova, Czech Republic, def. Roberta Vinci, Italy, 7-5, 6-4.
Elena Baltacha, Britain, def. Sybille Bammer, Austria, 3-6, 7-6 (5), 7-6 (5).
Monica Niculescu, Romania, def. Bojana Jovanovski, Serbia, 6-1, 7-6 (2).
Zheng Jie, China, def. Sorana Cirstea, Romania, 6-3, 6-7 (5), 6-3.
Patty Schnyder, Switzerland, def. Madison Keys, U.S., 3-6, 6-1, 7-6 (2).
Petra Martic, Croatia, def. Kristina Barrois, Germany, 7-5, 6-2.
Simona Halep, Romania, def. Urszula Radwanska, Poland, 6-3, 6-2.
Johanna Larsson, Sweden, def. Anastasia Rodionova, Australia, 6-4, 7-6 (3).
Ayumi Morita, Japan, def. Heather Watson, Britain, 7-5, 6-2.
Ekaterina Makarova, Russia, def. Vera Dushevina, Russia, 6-2, 6-2.
Sabine Lisicki, Germany, def. Melinda Czink, Hungary, 6-3, 5-7, 6-4.

BASKETBALL

NCAA TOURNAMENT

All times Eastern
Regional Semifinals
EAST REGION
Friday's games
North Carolina (28-7) vs. Marquette (22-14), 7 p.m.
Ohio State (34-2) vs. Kentucky (27-8), 9:30 p.m.
SOUTHEAST REGION
Tomorrow's games
Florida (28-7) vs. BYU (32-4), 7:15 pm
Butler (25-9) vs. Wisconsin (25-8), 9:55 pm
SOUTHWEST REGION
Friday's games
Kansas (34-2) vs. Richmond (29-7), 7:15 pm
Florida State (23-10) vs. Virginia Commonwealth (26-11), 9:55 p.m.
WEST REGION
Tomorrow's games
San Diego State (34-2) vs. Connecticut (28-9), 7 p.m.
Duke (32-4) vs. Arizona (29-7), 9:30 pm

LACROSSE

NLL

EAST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	Pct.	GF	GA	GB
x-Toronto	11	9	2	.818	132	101	—
Buffalo	10	7	3	.700	110	93	1½
Boston	11	6	5	.545	117	102	3
Rochester	10	5	5	.500	93	107	3½
Philadelphia	11	4	7	.364	99	125	5

WEST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	Pct.	GF	GA	GB
x-Calgary	11	8	3	.727	140	123	—
Minnesota	9	5	4	.556	102	98	2
Washington	11	5	6	.455	146	135	3
Edmonton	11	2	9	.182	117	147	6
Colorado	9	1	8	.111	80	105	6

x — clinched playoff berth.
WEEK 12
Friday's games
All times Eastern
Minnesota at Edmonton, 9 p.m.
Toronto at Calgary, 9:30 p.m.
Boston at Washington, 11 p.m.
Saturday's games
Philadelphia at Rochester, 7:35 p.m.
Boston at Colorado, 9 p.m.
Sunday's game
Buffalo at Minnesota, 5 p.m.

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
y-Boston	50	19	.725	—
y-Chicago	50	19	.725	—
x-Miami	48	22	.686	2½
x-Orlando	45	26	.634	6
Atlanta	40	30	.571	10½
Philadelphia	36	34	.514	14½
New York	35	35	.500	15½
Indiana	31	40	.437	20
Milwaukee	28	41	.406	22
Charlotte	28	41	.406	22
Detroit	25	45	.357	25½
New Jersey	22	47	.319	28
Toronto	20	50	.286	30½
Washington	17	51	.250	32½
Cleveland	13	56	.188	37

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-San Antonio	57	13	.814	—
y-L.A. Lakers	50	20	.714	7
x-Dallas	49	21	.700	8
d-Oklahoma City	45	24	.652	11½
Denver	42	29	.592	15½
Portland	40	30	.571	17
New Orleans	40	31	.563	17½
Memphis	39	32	.549	18½
Houston	37	34	.521	20½
Phoenix	35	33	.515	21
Utah	36	35	.507	21½
Golden State	30	41	.423	27½
L.A. Clippers	27	44	.380	30½
Sacramento	17	52	.246	39½
Minnesota	17	54	.239	40½

d – division leader; **x** — clinched playoff berth; **y** — clinched division.

Last night's results
Chicago at Atlanta
Washington at Portland
Phoenix at L.A. Lakers
Monday's results
Denver 123 Toronto 90
Orlando 97, Cleveland 86
Indiana 102, New Jersey 98
Boston 96 New York 86
Chicago 132 Sacramento 92
Memphis 103 Utah 85
San Antonio 111 Golden State 96
Tonight's games
All times Eastern
Indiana at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
New Jersey at Cleveland, 7 p.m.
Atlanta at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Memphis at Boston, 7:30 p.m.
Miami at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Sacramento at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.
Utah at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.
Orlando at New York, 8 p.m.
Golden State at Houston, 8:30 p.m.
Toronto at Phoenix, 10 p.m.
Washington at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.
San Antonio at Denver, 10:30 p.m.

CRICKET

WORLD CUP

QUARTER-FINALS
Today's match
At Dhaka, Bangladesh
Pakistan vs. West Indies
Tomorrow's match
At Ahmadabad, India
India vs. Australia
Friday's match
At Dhaka, Bangladesh
South Africa vs. New Zealand
Saturday's match
At Colombo, Sri Lanka
Sri Lanka vs. England

CYCLING

VOLTA OF CATALUNYA

At Banyoles, Spain
Second stage
1. Alessandro Petacchi, Ita., Lampre, 4 hr 11 min 8 sec; 2. Jose Joaquin Rojas, Spn., Movistar, same time; 3. Manuel Cardoso, Por., Radioshack, s.t.; 4. Samuel Dumoulin, Fra., Cofidis, s.t.; 5. Aitor Galdos, Spn., Caja Rural, s.t.; 6. Giacomo Nizzolo, Ita., Leopard Trek, s.t.

Engine

The starting-point engine is a V6, but it will initially be the 302-horsepower 3.5-litre unit for the SLK 350. Mercedes-Benz reports that the V6 SLK will sprint to 96 km/h in 5.6 seconds.

Later in the model year — likely early 2012 — a new base-model SLK250 is expected, sporting a 201-horsepower turbocharged 1.8-litre four-cylinder engine that replaces the outgoing 228-horsepower 3.0-litre V6.

Magic Sky Control

The SLK's signature lightweight power-retractable hardtop returns for the 2012 model year, but you can now opt for a panoramic glass roof that can be ordered with "Magic Sky Control."

With the press of a button, the glass can be changed from a dark tint to clear, depending on the time of day or to suit your personal preference.

Spruced-up interior

Coming in for some sprucing up is the SLK's interior that showcases a new flat-bottom steering wheel, plenty of brushed aluminum trim on the centre console, plus four oversized chromed air vents that don't quite seem to fit with the car's otherwise restrained cabin design.

Optional are special leather coverings that keep the seats cooler by reflecting the sun's rays.

▶ It's the least expensive Mercedes-Benz convertible, but do you really need much more than the SLK to make a statement while enjoying the open air?

Feel good and look good in this drop-top

MALCOLM GUNN
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA
WHEELBASE MEDIA

With 110 years of sports-car history in its back pocket, Mercedes-Benz has learned a thing or two about what makes these cars and their proud owners tick.

And this vast experience is packed into the 2012 SLK roadster that's due to arrive this summer.

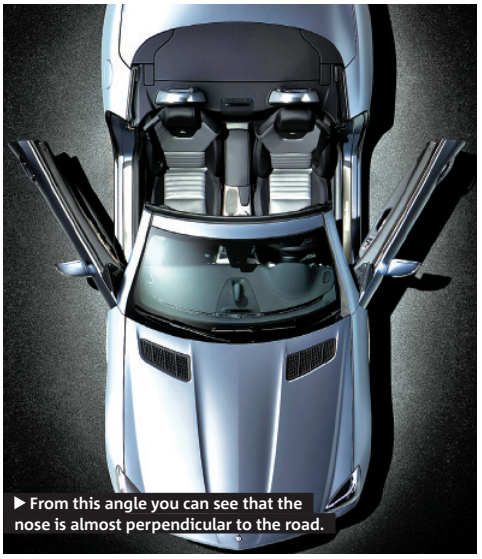
Style and substance are necessary ingredients for any sports car, but, for Mercedes-Benz, how the vehicle makes you feel and how others see you behind the wheel are perhaps treated with equal importance.

SLK customers will likely feel and look particularly good with this third-generation drop-topper. As well, anyone approaching the SLK from afar will instantly notice the dominating three-pointed star affixed to the grille. In fact, they might even mistake the SLK for the similar-looking SL or even the SLS AMG relations that cost considerably more.

The king-size Mercedes-Benz logo is part of a larger and more upright grille, one-piece lower air intake and enlarged all-LED (Light Emitting Diode) headlamps that provides the illusion that the SLK is much lower and wider than its predecessor.

There's no word yet regarding the return of a high-performance AMG version, so for now the fuel-sipping four-cylinder and more mainstream V6 will have to do.

However, for SLK drivers it's how you arrive that's just as important as how rapidly you arrive. Either way, you're practically guaranteed to get there with a smile.


▶ From this angle you can see that the nose is almost perpendicular to the road.

▶ A rear view of the SLK.

SLK-Class

What you should know about the 2012 Mercedes-Benz SLK-Class:

- **Type:** Two-door luxury hardtop convertible.
- **Engine (hp):** 1.8-litre DOHC I4, turbocharged (201); 3.5-litre DOHC V6 (302)
- **Transmission:** Six-speed manual (std.,1.8), Seven-speed automatic (opt. with 1.8, std. with 3.5).
- **Market Position:** The SLK is the starting point in a trio of impressive sports cars that tops out with the $200,000 SLS AMG.
- **Points:** Front-end styling is more aggressive and luxurious; Trick day/night sunroof will be popular option.
- **Stats:** L/100 km (city/hwy) 11.6/8.0 (3.5, est.)

5 drive

By comparison

Audi TTS roadster
Base price: $54,500
Four-wheel-drive soft-top sticks to four-cylinder turbo engine choices.

BMW Z4
Base price: $55,000
Recent facelift has this "Bimmer" looking and acting better than ever.

Infiniti G37
Base price: $60,200
Two + two folding hardtop model comes with 325-hp V6 plus plenty of extras.

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TWO AND A HALF CANADIAN SUPERCARS

Auto Pilot

MIKE GOETZ
DRIVE@ METRONEWS.CA

You're shopping for a mid-engine supercar with carbon-fibre construction and at least 750 horsepower — and it must be designed and built in Canada. How many options do you have?

Would you believe, "two and a half?" Do you not find that weird? Weird that the answer is not zero ... Weird that Charlie Sheen keeps cropping up no matter what you start talking about.

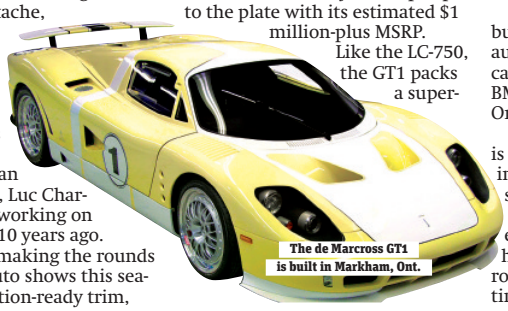
One of the cars on the list is the Plethore LC-750 designed and built in St-Eustache, Que. We've been aware of the LC-750 for some time (and spoken about it in this space before), because the man behind the car, Luc Chartrand, started working on this car about 10 years ago.

It has been making the rounds of Canadian auto shows this season, in production-ready trim, and the company is now in a position to start delivering examples — at $450,000 each.

So that's option "one." Option "two" is the de Marcross GT1. The de Marcross Motors Corporation (DMMC) was founded by Jahong Hur, a successful Korean businessman with family ties to GS Group, one of Korea's largest conglomerates. DMMC, with administrative offices in Vancouver, intends to build several de Marcross models, in addition to this just-introduced GT1 flagship.

Hur styled, conceived and bankrolled the car, but it was engineered and built by Multimatic, of Markham, Ont.

Multimatic also created production tooling, so it can build more GT1s — if anyone steps up to the plate with its estimated $1 million-plus MSRP.



The de Marcross GT1 is built in Markham, Ont.

Like the LC-750, the GT1 packs a supercharged V8. The GT1's chassis tub is carbon fibre, but its body panels, and front and rear substructures are aluminum (the LC-750 is all carbon fibre and/or composite material).

CONTRIBUTED

▶ The HTT Plethore LC-750 is made in St-Eustache, Que.

Multimatic engineers and builds auto parts; its list of automaker clients includes practicably everybody — from Ford to BMW to Aston Martin to Formula One racing teams.

Which brings us to why there is a "half" option, when considering Canadian-made carbon-fibre supercars.

In conduction with its U.K. engineering facility, Mutlimatic has engineered the complete rolling chassis of the Aston Martin One-77 — a super-exclusive $2 million supercar (only 77 will be built).

Multimatic also constructs the One-77's state-of-the-art carbon fibre chassis structure right at its Markham, Ont. facility.

We had a quick tour of where the Aston tubs are built up and it looks more like a fabric enterprise than a typical body shop, as technicians cut and layer the raw sheets of carbon fibre. We also saw the big oven, where finished tubs are baked to perfection.

So take that, Tim Hortons. You may bake more units than Plethora and Multimatic, but these guys have it all over you when it comes to high tech and structural stiffness.

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2006 Mazda3 GT Sport
• Load, Lthr Roof, Auto • st: E1389 • km: 90429
$12,950 $132* Bi-weekly

2009 Mazda6 GT
• Load, Lthr Roof, Std • st: E1324US • km: 38921
$20,980 $162*** Bi-weekly

2010 Mazda CX-7 GX
• Load, A/C, Auto • st: E1363US • km: 18451
$23,800 $183*** Bi-weekly

2007 Mazda5 GS
• Load, A/C, Std • st: 101163A • km: 98138
$10,850 $95** Bi-weekly

2006 Mazda5 GS
• Load, A/C, Std • st: E1415 • km: 61123
$11,980 $122* Bi-weekly

2007 Mazda3 GS Sport
• Load, A/C, Auto • st: E1413 • km: 79748
$12,950 $114** Bi-weekly

2008 Mazda3 GX Sedan
• Pwr, A/C, CD, Std • st: 110175A • km: 75089
$9,980 $87* Bi-weekly

2010 Mazda CX-7 GS
• 4x4, Load, A/C, Auto • st: E1418US • km: 15218
$30,980 $236*** Bi-weekly

2008 Mazda3 GS
• Load, CD Std • st: E1412 • km: 51115
$12,840 $111** Bi-weekly

2009 Mazda CX-9 GT
• 4x4, Load, A/C, Lthr • st: E1451US • km: 44054
$29,980 $230** Bi-weekly

2008 Mazda3 Sport GX
• Pwr, A/C, CD, Std • st: 110162A • km: 71850
$10,480 $91** Bi-weekly

2008 Mazda3 GX Sedan
• Pwr, A/C, CD, Auto • st: 110323A • km: 43210
$14,450 $127** Bi-weekly

2010 Mazda3 GS Sedan
• Load, Spoiler, A/C, Std • st: E1473 • km: 26000
$19,040 $162** Bi-weekly

2007 Mazda5 GS
• Load, A/C, Std • st: E1490 • km: 99860
$10,850 $103*** Bi-weekly

2010 Mazda3 GX
• Pwr, A/C, CD, Std • st: E1471 • km: 249
$15,250 $118*** Bi-weekly

2006 Mazda6 V6
• Load, A/C, Lthr, Auto • st: E1436US • km: 46403
$13,985 $153*** Bi-weekly

2007 Mazda CX-7 GS
• Load, Cruise A/C, Auto • st: E1055US • km: 45517
$19,740 $188* Bi-weekly

2006 Mazda6 Wagon
• Pwr, Cruise, A/C, Auto • st: E1454 • km: 56721
$12,650 $129* Bi-weekly

2007 Mazda6 GS
• Load, Spoiler A/C, Auto • st: E1466US • km: 48906
$14,850 $130** Bi-weekly

2010 Mazda CX-9 GT
• 4x4, Load, A/C, Lthr, Auto • st: E1474US • km: 34833
$35,245 $271*** Bi-weekly

2006 Mazda Tribute GT
• 4x4, Load, Lthr, Auto • st: E1446 • km: 104317
$13,850 $142* Bi-weekly

2008 Mazda Tribute GT
• 4x4, Load, Lthr, Auto • st: E1425 • km: 73760
$19,480 $170** Bi-weekly

2008 Mazda Tribute GS
• 4x4, Load, CD, Auto • st: E1400US • km: 42707
$18,950 $166** Bi-weekly

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Dealer may sell for less. Only one (1) Offer may be applied toward the purchase or lease of each Eligible Vehicle. This Offer can be used in conjunction with most retail consumer offers made available by Ford of Canada at the time of factory order or delivery, but not both. This Offer is not combinable with CPA, GPC, Daily Rental Allowances or the Commercial Fleet Incentive Program (CFIP). Limited time offer. Offer may be cancelled at any time without notice. Some conditions apply. Offer available to residents of Canada only. See Dealer for details. †† Lease a new 2011 Ford Fiesta SE 5 Door Manual/Fiesta 5 Door Manual with Sport Appearance Package and SYNC® and Sound Package and get 3.99% APR for 48 months on approved credit (OAC) from Ford Credit. Not all buyers will qualify for the lowest APR payment. 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Taxes are payable on the full amount of the purchase price. ‡‡Based on highway driving only in 2011 Fiesta 1.6L Duratec I-4 Automatic with SFE Package (6.8 city/4.9 hwy/5.9 combined L/100 km). Actual fuel consumption may vary based on road conditions, vehicle loading and driving habits. **Class is Subcompact Cars. Comparison data based on Natural Resources Canada (NRCAN) Subcompact Cars and R.L. Polk B-Car (excluding Diesel) classifieds. ‡‡ Estimated fuel consumption ratings for the 2011 Fiesta 1.6L Duratec I-4 Automatic with SFE Package based on Transport Canada approved test methods. Actual fuel consumption may vary based on road conditions, vehicle loading and driving habits. ^Vehicle shown is Fiesta SE 5 Door Manual with Sport Appearance Package and SYNC® and Sound 1.6L I-4 5-speed manual with 7.1L/100km city and 5.3L/100km hwy. 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Performance to price ratio is nice

SECOND GEAR

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA

Launched in 2003 to a primarily Japanese-dominated market of affordable performance cars, the Dodge SRT4 had a simple goal: delivering the ultimate performance in its class.

Effectively a tweaked-up Neon with a 230-horsepower turbocharged punch and various chassis and cosmetic upgrades, the SRT4 was designed to deliver top levels of styling, acceleration and handling. Shoppers can look for up to 230 horsepower, as well as a limited slip differential and larger fuel injectors on 2004 and 2005 models.

All models got a five-speed manual transmission.

Don't miss the large spoiler, dual exhaust, lowered suspension and hood scoop, either.

Ultimately, the SRT4 was as mean looking as the googly-eyed Neon ever looked.

Those shoppers prioritizing maximum speed and power for their money won't be disappointed. Look for bolstered sport seats, power front windows (the rear windows were manual) a sunroof and an upgraded audio system.

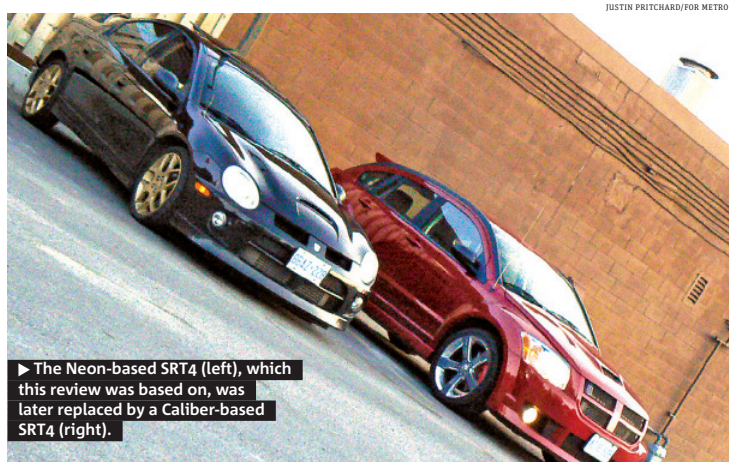
Many SRT4 owners take to online forums to show off their rides, discuss upgrades and bash imported sports cars.

As a result, there's a huge online community and plenty of resources available for new owners.

What's the 4-1-1

- **Model:** 2003 to 2005 Dodge SRT4
- **Vehicle Type:** Compact performance sedan
- **Approximate used price range:** $6,500 to $12,000

JUSTIN PRITCHARD/FOR METRO



▶ The Neon-based SRT4 (left), which this review was based on, was later replaced by a Caliber-based SRT4 (right).

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2011 RESIDUAL VALUE AWARD alg. ALG AWARD WINNER Best Midsize Car◆

2011 RESIDUAL VALUE AWARD alg. ALG AWARD WINNER Best Midsize Utility Vehicle◆

2.5X Convenience Package shown

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2.5i Sport Package shown

2011 LEGACY 2.5i All-Wheel Drive

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2.5i Sport Package shown

2011 OUTBACK 2.5i All-Wheel Drive

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2011 Dodge Grand Caravan Crew shown.§

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CHRYSLER Jeep DODGE RAM

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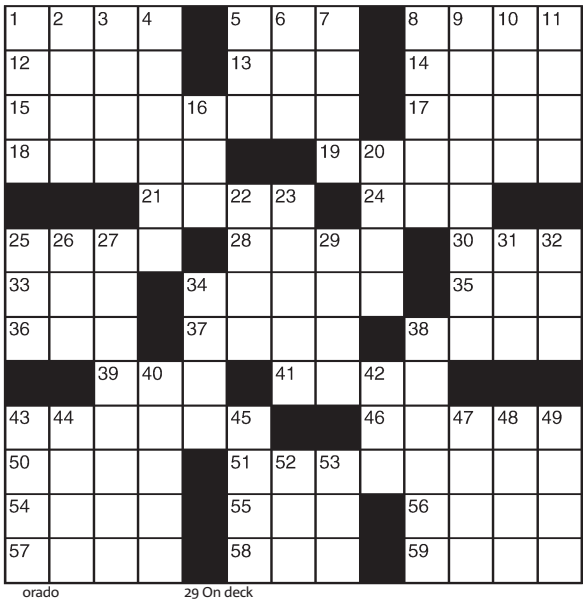
Wise customers read the fine print: ❖, •, ‡, ††, § The Save the Freight Event offers apply to retail deliveries of selected new and unused models purchased from participating retailers between March 1, 2011 and March 31, 2011. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Offers subject to change and may be extended without notice. See participating retailers for complete details and conditions. ❖Save the Freight discount offer applies to eligible 2011 Dodge Grand Caravan SXT, Crew and all Chrysler Town & Country models offered through Ontario retailers. Chrysler Canada will waive the $1,400 freight charge. While supplies last. See retailers for details. •$20,995 Purchase Price applies to 2011 Dodge Grand Caravan SE Canada Value Package (29E) only and includes $7,000 Consumer Cash Discount. The Save the Freight offer does not apply to the 2011 Dodge Grand Caravan SE Canada Value Package (29E). See participating retailers for complete details. Pricing includes freight ($1,400), air tax, tire levy and OMVIC fee. Pricing excludes licence, insurance, registration, any retailer administration fees, other retailer charges and other applicable fees and taxes. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Retailers may sell for less. ‡Consumer Cash Discounts are offered on most new 2010 and select 2011 vehicles and are manufacturer-to-retailer incentives, which are deducted from the negotiated price before taxes. Amounts vary by vehicle. See your retailer for complete details. ††Customer Choice Financing for 36-, 48- and 60-month terms on approved credit through TD Financing Services and Ally Credit Canada is available at participating dealerships to qualified retail customers on most new 2010 Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge and Ram models (except Grand Caravan Cargo Van and Ram Chassis Cab) and select 2011 Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge and Ram models. The following terms apply to TD Financing Services contracts: **(Different contract terms apply to Ally Credit Canada offers. See your retailer for complete details.)** Vehicles are financed over a 36-, 48- or 60-month term with payments amortized over a term of up to 96 months and the pre-determined residual balance payable at the end of the contract. At contract's end, customers have the choice of returning their vehicle to a Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge, Ram dealership with no further obligations (except payment of a $199 return fee and excess wear and tear, mileage and similar charges), financing the remaining balance for the rest of the amortization period at then-current standard rates or paying the residual balance. Some conditions apply. Customer Choice Financing offers are for select 2011 Dodge Grand Caravan SXT (29D) with a Purchase Price of $25,495 financed at 4.99% APR for 60 months with $0 down payment equals 260 bi-weekly payments of $161. Cost of borrowing is $3,978 for a total obligation of $29,473. Taxes, license, insurance, registration, any retailer administration fees, other retailer charges and other applicable fees and taxes are extra. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Retailers may sell for less. Some conditions apply. Customer Choice Financing offers are for select 2011 Dodge Grand Caravan SXT (29D) with a Purchase Price of $25,495 financed at 4.99% APR for 60 months with $0 down payment equals 260 bi-weekly payments of $161. Cost of borrowing is $3,978 for a total obligation of $29,473. Taxes, license, insurance, registration, any retailer administration fees, other retailer charges and other applicable fees and taxes are extra. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Retailers may sell for less. See participating retailers for complete details. §2011 Dodge Grand Caravan Crew shown has a higher price than the 2011 Dodge Grand Caravan SE Canada Value Package and 2011 Dodge Grand Caravan SXT advertised. See your retailer or go to www.dodge.ca for complete details. ■Based on *Ward's* 2011 Small Van Segmentation. Excludes other Chrysler Group LLC designed and/or manufactured vehicles. The Best Buy Seal is a registered trademark of Consumers Digest Communications LLC, used under license. ®SIRIUS and the dog logo are registered trademarks of SIRIUS Satellite Radio Inc. ®Jeep is a registered trademark of Chrysler Group LLC. Customer Choice Financing is a trademark of Chrysler Group LLC.

Crossword



Across

1 Safecracker
5 Collection
8 Memo acronym
12 Seed coat
13 In favour of
14 Sitarist Shankar
15 Soldierly
17 Radar screen noise
18 Defense grp., 1954-77
19 Mate
21 Gear teeth
24 Illustrations
25 Morse "T"
28 Dryer fluff
30 Rd.
33 — Khan
34 Tarzan's transportation
35 Carnival city
36 There
37 Mountain goat
38 Blue shade
39 "This — recording"
41 Celebrity
43 Nursery item
46 Labour camp
50 Birthright barterer
51 Pertaining to funds
54 Swiss city
55 Rage
56 Despot
57 Emulates Simon
58 Ball-bearing item
59 Blood (Pref.)

Down

1 Thanksgiving sides
2 Great Lake
3 River to the Colorado
4 Slight snafu
5 Resort
6 Mess up
7 Santa's sackful
8 Latticework shelter
9 Healthful
10 Hertz rival
11 Prop for Sherlock
16 As well
20 Butter servings
22 Smooth-talking
23 Trig functions
25 Rotation duration
26 Past
27 Very clean
29 On deck
31 Through
32 A long time
34 Test tube
38 Broken-leg aid
40 Stupefies
42 Candle count
43 CSA soldiers
44 On the briny
45 Send out
47 Lounge about
48 Composer Khachaturian
49 Pita sandwich
52 Raw mineral
53 Born

▶ Yesterday's answer

H	A	R	M		R	P	M		B	O	L	A
E	T	U	I		I	I	I		R	A	I	D
N	E	G	L	E	C	T	S		O	R	E	O
			I	R	E		C	E	N	S	U	S
A	G	R	E	E		D	A	R	T			
L	U	A	U		D	I	S	S	E	C	T	S
P	R	Y		B	E	T	T	E		O	U	T
S	U	S	P	E	C	T	S		M	O	T	E
			H	E	R	O		H	O	K	U	M
L	U	P	I	N	E		W	A	D			
O	P	A	L		P	R	O	J	E	C	T	S
T	O	R	I		I	O	N		S	P	A	R
S	N	A	P		T	N	T		T	A	X	I

Sudoku

		3		5		7	9	
4	7		9				1	
		8			6			
		9		6				
6		1				2		3
				1		8		
			7			5		
	1				4		8	7
	2	5		9		4		

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

7	3	4	1	2	5	9	8	6
1	6	2	9	3	8	5	4	7
5	9	8	6	7	4	3	2	1
4	7	5	8	6	9	2	1	3
6	2	9	3	1	7	4	5	8
3	8	1	4	5	2	6	7	9
2	1	6	5	8	3	7	9	4
8	4	7	2	9	6	1	3	5
9	5	3	7	4	1	8	6	2

Send a KISS

Show some love! Send a note to somebody special at kiss@metronews.ca

Buzz, you've taught me so much about life and myself. i'm a better person because of you. I love you more than anything. Can't wait to see what the future holds babe Love Always Baby Girl **NES**

Swamp, I love YOU more. So there. & I wont ever stop. **PANDA**

Princess Yanna! Happy Birthday filled with love and happiness. **B&F LOVE YOU**

Juicy, you truly are special & I enjoy everyday spent with you. Looking forward to sharing my future with you. **LOVE ALWAYS HABIBI XO**

hey G, I'm thinking of you still; if you're thinking of me too, give me a call and we could talk. I miss you **M**

Fod, you're a friend that everybody wishes for, but few have. Simply put, youre the Best! **FOD SQUAD 4EVER!**

Today -3°/-10° Variable
Thursday 0°/-8° Partly cloudy
IT'S LIKE HAVING A METEOROLOGIST LIVING IN YOUR POCKET.
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Today's horoscope

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 You like to be on the winning side and there's not much doubt you will be today. Remember though, winning isn't everything. If you get the chance to help someone else win, that will make you feel as good.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 Decide on a course of action and stick to it. The more you chop and change, the more likely it is your efforts will fall short and leave you feeling as if you have wasted your time.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 If someone says something about you that is obviously not true today, you must not get angry. It will annoy him or her more if you pretend that you are not in the least bit upset.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 Someone in a position of authority will ask you to team up with someone you don't really get along with today. Chances are, it is more of an order than a request. Make it work.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23 If you allow others to distract you today, chances are you won't get much done. That would be a shame as you have so much going for you now. You cannot afford to be sidetracked by petty issues or petty people.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 You seem to be under divine protection at the moment, but that is not an invitation to act recklessly. By all means take a few risks but make sure they are risks you can handle.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 Why are you holding back from trying something new? Could it be your sixth sense warning you of dangers ahead? Yes, it could, so be careful. But don't stop altogether.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 Take control of your current situation and don't let other people decide what you'll do or how you you'll do it. As a Scorpio, you don't need to care what the world thinks.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 There is good and bad in every person. If you keep that in mind today, you are less likely to get caught in one of those "I'm right, you're wrong" shouting matches that don't solve anything.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 Be ready to ditch what you don't need so that what you do need has room to come in your life. Don't be sentimental about material possessions.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 You're not the sort to let other people's doubts hold you back. That's just as well because you will encounter some negative reactions today. What you are planning is not doomed. It will be a success.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20 You may not want to rock the boat but you know that something needs to be done to shake certain people out of their slumber. Aim to inject energy into what has become just another routine. SALLY BROMPTON

Caption contest

DAVE CHIDLEY/ THE CANADIAN PRESS

WIN!

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Write a funny caption for the image to the right and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

RICH MATTHEWS/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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*Source: NADbank 2009/10 Base: Ottawa CMA, Age 18+. 82,800 daily readers.
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Sofa, Loveseat & Chair

Queen Bed, Dresser, Mirror & 2 Night Stands

Sofa, Loveseat & Chair

Queen Bed, Dresser, Mirror & 2 Night Stands

Sofa, Loveseat & Chair

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GL Sport model shown

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HIGHWAY 6.5L/100 KM – 43 MPG▼

GLS Sport model shown

ELANTRA TOURING

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EUROPEAN-INSPIRED 5-DOOR

HIGHWAY 5.7L/100 KM – 50 MPG▼

Limited model shown

2010 BEST-SELLING MID-SIZE IMPORT SEDAN IN CANADA∞ SONATA

OWN IT FOR ONLY **$134**† BI-WEEKLY PAYMENT WITH **0%** FINANCING FOR **84** MONTHS AND **$0** DOWN PAYMENT

SONATA GL 6-SPEED. DELIVERY, DESTINATION & FEES INCLUDED. PLUS HST.

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★★★★★ AWARDED THE HIGHEST GOVERNMENT CRASH SAFETY RATING* U.S. NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

HIGHWAY 6.5L/100 KM – 43 MPG▼

Limited model shown

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AJAC www.ajac.ca AUTOMOBILE JOURNALISTS ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

HIGHWAY 7.2L/100 KM – 39 MPG▼

Limited model shown

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Kanata, On 613-592-8883

GRADUATE REBATE PROGRAM

"The Hyundai names, logos, product names, feature names, images and slogans are trademarks owned by Hyundai Auto Canada Corp. †Finance offers available O.A.C. from Hyundai Financial Services based on a new 2011 Accent L 3 Dr 5-speed/2011 Elantra Touring L 5-Speed/2011 Sonata GL 6-speed/2011 Tucson L 5-speed with an annual finance rate of 0%/0%/0%/0% for 84/84/84/60 months. Bi-weekly payment is $32/$91/$134/$169. No down payment is required. Finance offers include Delivery and Destination of $1,495/$1,495/$1,565/$1,760, fees, levies, charges and all applicable taxes (excluding HST). Registration, insurance, license fees, PPSA and all applicable taxes are excluded. Delivery and destination charge includes freight, P.D.E., dealer admin fees and a full tank of gas. Financing example: 2011 Accent L 3 Dr 5-speed for $15,130 at 0% per annum equals $180.72 per month for 84 months for a total obligation of $15,130. Cash price is **$15,130**. Example price includes Delivery and Destination of $1,495, fees, levies, charges and all applicable taxes (excluding HST). Registration, insurance, PPSA and license fees are excluded. ‡$4,000 discount on the 2011 Santa Fe 2.4L GL 6-Speed Manual is available on purchase or lease of a new 2011 Santa Fe 2.4L GL 6-Speed Manual (SM24D3-11) delivered between July 2nd and September 7th, 2010. Dealer may sell for less. Dealer may lease for less. Offer may be combined with other offers. Offer may end without notice. Offer not available on other Santa Fe models. ♦Purchase prices shown are 2011 Accent GL 3Dr Sport/2011 Elantra Touring GLS Sport/2011 Sonata Limited/2011 Tucson Limited/2011 Santa Fe Limited are **$15,380/$24,980/$30,700/$34,145/$37,695**. Starting prices for 2011 Accent L 3 Dr 5-speed/2011 Sonata GL 6-speed/2011 Tucson L 5-speed/2011 Santa Fe GL 2.4L 6-speed are **$15,130/$18,530/$23,350/$21,895/$21,895**. Prices do not include optional accessories. Dealer may sell for less. Dealer may lease for less. Offer may be combined with other offers. Offer may end without notice. Offer not available on other Santa Fe models shown. ▲Government 5-Star Safety Ratings are part of the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA's) New Car Assessment Program (www.SaferCar.gov). The 5-star rating applies to all the trim levels of the 2011 Sonata produced between July 2nd and September 7th 2010. ∞Based on the December 2010 AIAMC report. ΩBased on the January 2011 AIAMC report. ΔSee your dealer for eligible vehicles and full details of the Graduate Rebate Program. ††Hyundai's Comprehensive Limited Warranty coverage covers most vehicle components against defects in workmanship under normal use and maintenance conditions. Fuel economy figures are used for comparison purposes only. Actual fuel efficiency may vary based on driving conditions and the addition of certain vehicle accessories. Fuel economy figures are used for comparison purposes only. ^Fuel economy comparison based on combined fuel consumption rating for the 2011 Sonata GL 6-speed manual (T35J/100km) and 2011 Energuide combined fuel consumption ratings for the full size vehicle class. Fuel consumption for the Sonata GL 6-speed manual (HNY 5.7L/100KM. City 8.7L/100KM/2011 Elantra Touring L Auto (HNY 6.6L/100KM. City 8.7L/100KM/2011 Tucson (HNY 6.6L/100KM. City 9.1L/100KM/2011 Santa Fe 2.4L 6-Speed Automatic FWD (City 10.4L/100KM. HWY 7.2L/100KM) are based on EnerGuide fuel consumption ratings. Actual fuel efficiency may vary based on driving conditions and the addition of certain vehicle accessories. Fuel economy figures are used for comparison purposes only. ▼Fuel consumption for 2011 Accent 3Dr (HNY 5.7L/100KM. City 7.3L/100KM/2011 Elantra Touring L Auto (HNY 6.6L/100KM. City 8.7L/100KM/2011 Tucson (HNY 6.6L/100KM. City 9.1L/100KM/2011 Santa Fe 2.4L 6-Speed Automatic FWD (City 10.4L/100KM. 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